



LONDON MISSION

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION FROM
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO HIGH COMMISSION, LONDON

VOLUME 68
JUL - SEPT 2014



LEED'S CARNIVAL KING OF THE BAND

SEA DRAGON BY SHEILA HOWARTH, RAYMOND WILKES
AND THE GERALDINE CONNOR FOUNDATION

A Quarterly Publication of :
**The High Commission for the Republic of
Trinidad and Tobago, London**

42 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8NT

TEL: 020 7245 9351
FAX: 020 7823 1065
EMAIL: tthc@btconnect.com

PRINTING
Public Affairs, Culture and Tourism
Department of The High Commission
for the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Mr. Tedwin Herbert, Acting High Commissioner

EDITORS

Ms. Keisha Rochford-Hawkins, 2nd Secretary
Ms. Achi-Kemba Phillips, Tourism Attaché

WRITER

Ms. Bianca Beddoe

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Ms. Achi-Kemba Phillips, Tourism Attaché
Mrs. Karen Thomas
Mrs. Beverley Awonaya

PROOFING

Mrs. Beverley Awonaya
Ms. Achi-Kemba Phillips, Tourism Attaché

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Mr. Lawson C. Lovell
Ms. Achi-Kemba Phillips, Tourism Attaché
Mrs. Karen Thomas
Mrs. Beverley Awonaya

LAYOUT AND DESIGN

Mr. Lawson C. Lovell

STAY CONNECTED

 **Facebook**
TTHC London

 **Twitter**
@TnT_London

 Complete the National's
Registration Form online or
in person at the T&T High
Commission.

 **Website**
www.tthighcommission.co.uk

CONTENTS

LONDON **MISSION** | JUL - SEPT 2014
ISSUE 68



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

- 3/ Message from His Excellency
Anthony Carmona on the Occasion
of Republic Day

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER

- 5/ Prime Minister Kamla Persad-
Bissessar on the Occasion 52nd
Anniversary of Independence
- 6/ Prime Minister of Japan visits
Trinidad and Tobago

NEWS FROM THE MISSION

- 11/ TTHC Commemorates Emancipation
with 2-Day Celebration
- 14/ Nationals Reflection on Eid-ul-Fitr
Message of Personal Responsibility
to Help Fellow Man
- 16/ Trinidad and Tobago Nationals
in London Celebrate 52nd Year of
Independence

EYE ON TRADE

- 21/ Frontier International Bolsters
Presence in Trinidad and Tobago
- 22/ The Internationalisation Imperative
Pt 1
- 23/ Professor Heidi Mirza received a
Media Diversified Eight Woman
Award for her Research in Race,
Gender and Identity

CONSULAR & STUDENT SERVICES

- 25/ Fantastic Opportunity
- 25/ Am I Walcott or A Naipaul?

IMMIGRATION

- 26/ Turkey to establish Embassy in T&T

CULTURE & TOURISM

- 27/ Ruthland Bird Fair 2014
- 31-34/ Focus on Nottinghill Carnival
Mas Bands
- 38/ Nottinghill Carnival Competition
Results 2014

FEATURES

- 41/ Spotlight On... Up and Coming
Athele, Omari Stafford-Davis
- 45/ Nationals benefit from GHRs
Seminar on Enhancing Trinidad and
Tobago's Public Sector



MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY, ANTHONY THOMAS AQUINAS CARMONA ORTT, SC, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO ON THE OCCASION OF REPUBLIC DAY

Fellow citizens, today with the unprecedented access provided by technology and regional economic and political integration, mankind stands at the cusp of a truly global civilization, a system with a connectivity which provides for growth and the potential for development to unprecedented levels.

However, there are positives and negatives. On the one hand, the unfettered access to ideas and concepts has yielded great achievements in the fields of medicine, science, and art. On the other hand, the collision of ideas and cultures as a result of proximity either through immigration or communication, has triggered turmoil and has sometimes fostered intolerance. Man's inhumanity to man continues to grow. To hold a contrary view or opinion of any mainstream issue or topic of discussion is viewed with a jaundiced eye. Being politically correct is the new excuse for turning a blind eye to wrong doing. Blind aggression is becoming an accepted quality or trait and he or she who shouts the loudest is deemed to be correct and right. The voice of reason appears to have flown and the temptation to paint a broad brush of generalization is often the result of frustration and a sense of hopelessness. We are always blaming each other and not ourselves as we give in to a victim mentality. This has become toxic.



His Excellency Anthony Carmona S.C., President of Trinidad and Tobago

Globally, violence is no longer circumscribed by geographical delineations. Violence in one part of the globe touches us all. We here in Trinidad and Tobago know this as much as anyone else. In the 1988 Lockerbie bombing of Panam Flight 103, Anthony Selwyn Swan of Point Fortin, on his way back to university, perished. In the Westgate incident in Kenya just over a year ago, Ravi Ramrattan, a Presidential Medal winner from Cunupia, and a growing light of hope, also perished. But for timely circumstance, a citizen of Trinidad and Tobago would have been on the doomed Malaysian Airlines flight shot down over Ukraine. We must therefore not lull ourselves into a false sense of security thinking that it cannot happen here. Lest we forget, it can and it has happened here. The attempted coup of 1990 began with the death of Police Constable McLeod,

murdered in the line of duty. Some 15 years later in July 2005, Mrs. Yvonne McIvor was the innocent victim of a bomb hidden in, of all places, a bin on Frederick Street. In this evolving world, we are not immune to the violence and the antagonism rampant throughout the globe and manifesting itself in gang warfare, crime and terrorism. It follows then that matters of international and national importance should not take place around us without our seeking to understand the genesis and the ramifications of their passage.

So what can we do about it? What are YOU going to do about it? The first step is self-empowerment. This is one of the available benefits of a society with access to technology. With self-empowerment comes self-awareness and the realization that we can all do great things. Unfortunately, many

people mistake big things for great things. Simple things can be wonderful and fantastic affirmations of who we are. By being the best father we can be, the best mother, the best worker, the best person, we can make a positive difference in the life of someone. We can touch and change lives, and that is where true greatness lies. All we have to do is believe in ourselves. An admonition to those who are in doubt and lack a sense of self-esteem, do not be defined or let anyone define you by your environment, it is not who you are.

It is for this reason that the Office of The President is seeking to provide access to the corridors of power to all citizens. There is a misconception that you have to know somebody to be heard or to get anything. This has to stop. There are those who think they are entitled because of influence, affluence or political affiliation, their last name, job, family connections, acquaintances and friends. This misguided way of doing things has excluded vast sections of our citizens from opportunities to become involved in governance. To counter this, some of you may know that students from Primary and Secondary schools in both Trinidad and in Tobago are now invited to our small office to witness ceremonies including Presentation of Letters of Credence by Foreign Ambassadors and High Commissioners and visits by Heads of State. These

NEWS / THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

ceremonies were traditionally cloistered and reserved for a very select few. The students are even allowed to engage the dignitary and have done so, sometimes in the dignitary's native language.

Lines of succession and leadership must be created. Young people want to make a difference but they are generally not afforded the opportunity. It is for this reason that the Office of The President holds the firm view that the era of the super-technocrat is over and this is reflected in the appointments by The President in keeping with his Constitutional powers. As a result, no one person will be on more than one President-appointed Commission or Board unless exceptional circumstances exist [and none has been found so far] or by virtue of ex officio appointment. This equally applies to Senatorial appointments. The philosophy of indispensability, rampant in governmental and state structures, has no place in progressive governance.

Unfortunately there is a sense of entitlement born out of dependency that is threatening our society. Some may take this statement as an excuse to point fingers at one or other area or region in our country. But this is not the case. This dependency is not unique to any one sector of our society. In fact, as was stated before, dependency is the jockey riding the economy in all sectors. When the only pie that exists to be shared is from the government, then it is no wonder that the 'crab in the barrel' syndrome takes over. The world is full of pies but to access them we have to be innovative and competitive, characteristics which seem

to be elusive in this nation of ours. Of great concern is the Social Progress Index as reported in the *Newsday* of Sunday April 6th, 2014. This article has Trinidad and Tobago ranked 47th in the world. Social progress was defined as the capacity of a society to meet the basic needs of its citizens, establish the building blocks that allow citizens to improve their lives and create the conditions for individuals and communities to meet their full potential. In the context of our GDP, we are underperforming and we need to look at countries that are not often spoken of such as New Zealand, Switzerland, Iceland, the Netherlands and Norway which are the top 5 in the Social Progress Index in the world. We too often walk along the beaten path.

I wish to remind all citizens of the United Nations' Global Compact launched in 2000 and which is "a strategic policy initiative for businesses that are committed to aligning their operations and strategies with ten universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. By doing so business, as a primary driver of globalization, can help ensure that markets, commerce, technology, and finance advance in ways that benefit economies and societies everywhere." In keeping with this imperative, Trinidad and Tobago ratified the United Nations' Convention Against Corruption on the 31st May, 2006 and it focuses on corruption in both the public and private sectors. Corruption invariably undermines national economic growth. Enabling legislation to give effect to the Convention is therefore an imperative. We

have the Proceeds of Crime Act, also the Prevention of Corruption Act, but we need to go further, especially in the area of insider trading in a more comprehensive manner. Additionally, the nation should look forward to the enactment of Procurement and Campaign Financing legislation which can only redound to our integrity as a country.

Recently, all political parties signed on to a Code of Ethical Political Conduct devised by a committee of civil society representatives chaired by His Grace Archbishop Joseph Harris. It is an outward display of our burgeoning political maturity for the code sets out to prevent parties, candidates and their supporters from engaging in character assassination, spreading of false rumours and gossip, and ensuring that persons are true to their words. It may do the Members of Parliament well to recall this hallowed objective in the cut and thrust of their Parliamentary discourse.

I do recall the incisive observations of Imam Rashid Karim of the Anjuman Sunnat-ul-Jamaat Association (ASJA) who stated that the committee did not subscribe to the view that politics had a morality of its own. He stated further, and I quote, "If something is wrong, we cannot make it right because it is a political thing. Spirituality and morality must guide in all endeavours, all walks of life, in business in our daily routine" (end quote).

We have a democratic system of governance which is rooted in the belief of government by the people, of the people, for the people. There is a

quiet power which exists and which is held in the hands of the people. As a people we are masters of our Destiny.

You may recall the distinction that I made last year between Independence Day (the birth of our Nation) and Republic Day which marks our coming of age. The three Independence watch words, Discipline, Production and Tolerance, which we traditionally invoke on Independence Day are just as relevant and critical on Republic Day. The Office of The President in collaboration with the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force and the Trinidad and Tobago Cadet Force, has sought to raise the profile of Republic Day by having a week of celebrations which began on Saturday 20th September with the Commander in Chief Parade and will include Career Fairs, one on Monday 22nd September in Toco, which attracted hundreds of students from the Eastern Districts; Long Service Awards for members of the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force on Tuesday, 23rd September; this live national address on this very said day; a continuation of the Career Fairs in Tobago on Thursday 25th and Friday 26th September; and an inaugural cocktail reception for Commissioned Officers, spouses and significant others.

Ours is a young, vibrant and growing democracy and our achievements must not be underestimated and should be celebrated proudly. My family joins me in extending to you all best wishes on this our Republic Day and may God bless our Nation.

MESSAGE FROM THE HONOURABLE KAMLA PERSAD-BISSESSAR, SC, MP ON THE OCCASION OF THE 52ND ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

Fellow citizens of Trinidad and Tobago. It is with great pride that I address you on the occasion of the 52nd Independence Anniversary of our great Nation.

Much has been bestowed on our beautiful twin-island Republic over the past 52 years.

Indeed our history, cultural legacy, resources, economic success and the contribution of our people in many international fora often appear inconsistent with the geographic size of our country.



*The Honourable Kamla Persad-Bissessar
Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.*

We boast world-class athletes, cultural icons, diplomats and academics, all of whom have ensured that Trinidad and Tobago maintains a positive and enduring presence on the world stage.

We have walked many paths together in our journey of self-determination.

As a country and a united people we have overcome threats to our freedom and democracy.

We have risen above the challenges posed by differences of opinion and partisan interests. And we have done all this without succumbing to fear and violence.

We have celebrated together our many accomplishments.

And we continue to stand as a beacon of harmony in diversity, religious

tolerance and multicultural acceptance.

The questions we must now ask ourselves are, "how do we as citizens of a maturing democracy approach our next 52 years of Independence?" "To what shall we continue to aspire?" "What do we want to achieve?" "How determined are we to walk the talk and firmly take control of our destiny?"

This year, as we celebrate our independence, I believe that we now have a unique opportunity to demonstrate that we are the deserving inheritors of the courage, will and fierce determination that brought our ancestors out of bondage into the light of freedom.

Democracy is not merely a tepid concept that we should tout to raise our international profile.

Rather, democracy should be an active, participatory reality in which each and every citizen holds the right to determine how they are governed and by whom.

We cannot continue to solely wear national colours or sing a national anthem or declare to our friends around the world that we live in a democratic country without understanding the responsibility inherent in the words – "an independent, democratic Nation".

Seeking national independence meant that we felt confident enough in our ability to govern ourselves.

Choosing democracy and democratic principles as our government structure meant that we believed that this system was the one best suited to effect the needs of all our citizens.

It meant that we trusted our leaders, whom we put in place, to implement policies and develop laws in our best interest.

Fifty-two years ago we took a bold and brave step into an unknown future.

Fifty-two years later, with a more discerning, demanding and well-informed citizenry; it cannot be business as usual.

My Government has noted the growing expectations of our people with regard to governance.

It is these expectations which propelled my government to move forward with the Constitutional reforms which we had promised the Nation.

Independence means stepping out of your comfort zone.

Independence allows an opportunity to embrace change.

As a nation our creativity, innovativeness and enterprising spirit have brought us much recognition and success.

Today I call on every citizen of this great Nation to truly live the ideals of independence and democracy.

Let us grasp this opportunity to strengthen our democracy.

You are being given the power to chart the future of

our country.

We stand on the threshold of an exciting era in our political history.

Let us together make this 52nd Independence Anniversary a celebration which signalled the dawn of a new stewardship of our great Nation.

May God continue to bless all of you and may God bless our country.

Happy Independence.

August 31, 2014



For more information on The Children's Life Fund please visit www.clfa.org.tt

The Fund was Created and established in November 2010 by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, the Children's Life Fund's aegis is to provide urgent relief for children, assisting those who live in the shadow of disease and illness. The Fund has also received support from the renewed charity medical Schriners Children's Hospital. In addition, all Cabinet Ministers and Members of Parliament contribute 5% of their salary to the Fund.

Account Number:
50927848
Sort Code: 204734

Trinidad and Tobago
High Commission
(Children's Life Fund)

Barclays Bank,
West Halkin Street,
London SW1X 8JE

PRIME MINISTER OF JAPAN VISITS TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO



Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar with Mr. Shinzo Abe, the Prime Minister of Japan at the Diplomatic Centre in St Ann's for bilateral talks in Port of Spain. **Photo: Andrea De Silva/Reuters**

Mr. Shinzo Abe, the Prime Minister of Japan, paid a visit to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and attended events held in Port of Spain on July 27th and 28th. This was the first-ever visit to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago by a Japanese Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister's schedule included summit meetings with Trinidad and Tobago, Antigua and Barbuda, and Jamaica respectively. Prime Minister Abe also conducted a Japan-CARICOM summit, signing of grant and cooperation agreements and meetings with leaders of CARICOM member states.

Prime Minister Abe's first order of business commenced on Sunday July 27th when he held a bilateral meeting with the Hon. Kamla Persad-Bissessar, Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad

and Tobago, and exchanged opinions on the bilateral relations, Japan-CARICOM relations and cooperation in an international arena. Subsequently, five representatives from a Japanese economic mission paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Persad-Bissessar with the presence of Prime Minister Abe.

Prime Minister Abe held another bilateral meeting with the Hon. Gaston Browne, the Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda and the two leaders shared views that they would make the first-ever Japan-CARICOM Summit Meeting in the Japan-CARICOM Friendship Year 2014 an opportunity to further deepen and expand both bilateral and Japan-CARICOM relations. Moreover, the two leaders exchanged opinions on the bilateral relations and cooperation in an

international arena.

A bilateral meeting was also conducted between Prime Minister Abe and the Most Honourable Portia Simpson-Miller, Prime Minister of Jamaica. Opinions were exchanged on bilateral relations, economy/economic cooperation, tourism/people-to-people exchanges, Japan-CARICOM relations and cooperation in an international arena.

A welcome dinner hosted by Prime Minister Persad-Bissessar was held that night and Prime Minister and Mrs. Abe attended the dinner together with the economic mission from Japan. The dinner was held in a friendly atmosphere as the entrance of the venue was decorated like a carnival of Trinidad and Tobago and music was played following the addresses by the two leaders.

The first-ever Japan-CARICOM Summit Meeting was held on Monday July 28th, when Prime Minister Abe met with leaders from 14 CARICOM member states. From the CARICOM side, leaders from 10 countries (Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, the Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent, and Trinidad and Tobago) attended the meeting while the Cabinet ministers by proxy for their leaders from four countries (the Bahamas, Belize, Jamaica and Suriname). The Secretary-General of CARICOM also attended the meeting.

At the beginning of the meeting, Prime Minister Abe once again stressed solidarity between Japan and CARICOM member states and disclosed Japan's policies for CARICOM which consisted of three pillars. Subsequently, Prime Minister Abe actively exchanged opinions with the leaders of CARICOM countries. The CARICOM

contingent welcomed Japan's policies for the CARICOM and particularly highly appreciated Japan's understanding of the vulnerabilities particular to small island states. They also expressed expectation toward cooperation from Japan for the issues that each country has faced, such as debt, damage from hurricane disasters, and renewable energy.

Later that day, Prime Minister Abe held a joint press announcement on the Japan-CARICOM Summit Meeting together with Prime Minister Persad-Bissessar of Trinidad and Tobago and Prime Minister Browne of Antigua and Barbuda. At the beginning of the joint press announcement, signing of the Grant Aid for Environment/Climate Change Countermeasure Programs "The Project for Japan-Caribbean Climate Change Partnership (in coordination with the United Nations Development Programme)" and signing of the "Memorandum for Cooperation (MOC)"



Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar presented her Japanese counterpart, Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe with a steel pan gift. **Photo: Andrea De Silva/Reuters**

concerning cooperation in the field of renewable energy among the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), and Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) were held.

The Prime Minister also held individual meetings with nine leaders from CARICOM member states. At the meetings, Prime Minister Abe and leaders from CARICOM member states discussed assistance for overcoming the "vulnerabilities particular to small island states," the project on climate change that had been signed on that day, and cooperation in the international arena, and shared views on enhancing the relations between Japan and each country on the occasion of the Japan-CARICOM Friendship Year 2014. Each country highly appreciated the first-ever summit meeting and also expressed their strong intention to enhance dialogues in various levels and to deepen exchanges.

appreciated the fact that the first-ever Japan-CARICOM Summit Meeting was held with Prime Minister Abe, stating that this demonstrated the fact that Japan attached its importance to CARICOM. After the exchange of straight forward opinions between Prime Minister Abe and the leaders of the CARICOM member states, the CARICOM leaders commended Japan, which also has small islands, for taking seriously CARICOM's major concerns playing a role to reflect the voices of the small island states in an international arena, and sincerely responding that Japan will also consider bilateral cooperation.

The leaders from Japan and CARICOM member states looked back at the long history of friendship, confirmed expansion of exchanges and cooperation as partners sharing fundamental values, and also confirmed the importance to enhance high-level dialogues, including one between leaders.



Mr. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan signing agreement as the Hon. Kamla Persad-Bissessar, Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago looks on. **Photo: Andrea De Silva/Reuters**

The representatives

CARICOM highly



Edited from http://www.mofa.go.jp/la_c/crb/page22e_000473.html

INTRODUCING MR. TEDWIN HERBERT ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO TO THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND



Mr. Tedwin Herbert, Acting High Commissioner for the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

The High Commission is pleased to introduce Mr. Tedwin Herbert, who assumed duty as the Acting High Commissioner for Trinidad and Tobago to Court of St James's, at the Mission on 29th September 2014.

Following his appointment at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1985, Mr. Herbert gained considerable exposure in the Marine Affairs Division, the International Economic Relations Division, the Protocol Division, the Marine and Legal Division and the Office of the Prime Minister before being posted to the Embassy of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Caracas, Venezuela from 1995 to 1999. His

posting to Caracas was followed by his second posting to High Commission New Delhi, where he served as Acting High Commissioner, New Delhi, India from February 1999 to December 2003. His responsibilities included, inter alia, matters pertaining to bilateral relations with India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Japan, Singapore and Sri Lanka.

Mr. Herbert was Head of the Africa, Asia, Middle East and Pacific (AAMEP) Unit, Bilateral Relations Division from November 2007 to July 2012. In 2012, the AAMEP Unit was changed to a Division and as such, Mr. Herbert became the Director of the AAMEP Division.

COMMONWEALTH STATEMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY 2014

12th July, 2014

Today is an important moment for the world to pause and reflect upon the enormous contribution young people across the world make to national progress, and to local communities.

The theme for International Youth Day this year is 'Youth and Mental Health'. This presents a welcome opportunity for us to consider a subject which is still taboo in too many Commonwealth countries.

Conversations about mental health are often clouded by misunderstanding and stigma, which in turn can lead to the isolation and alienation of vulnerable young adults and adolescents. This is too serious an issue for us to ignore, especially when we consider that among young people, suicide is one of the most common cause of deaths.

Many young people already endure pervasive inequality and face obstacles to their full participation in economic,

social and political spheres of life. Persistent unemployment, poverty and marginalisation all have an impact on their psychological resilience.

Poor mental health can be a symptom of the circumstances of young people's lives, or stem from physiology; often it is a combination of both. Today, the Commonwealth recognises the importance of these young people being able to live full and happy lives, with proper support and without stigma.

The Commonwealth also stands with young people, youth councils, schools and

universities, faith groups, employers and families, to recognise the important work of the youth workers, and also the mental health charities and public health professionals, who support these young people.

The Commonwealth believes that young people are assets to their societies, with a proven capability to lead change. That is why we are advocating for there to be a clear recognition of the importance of young people's development, empowerment and participation as part of the new post 2015 global development agenda.

Deodat Maharaj, Deputy Secretary-General.



<http://thecommonwealth.org/media/news/commonwealth-statement-international-youth-day-2014#sthash.ISPAxbQW.dpuf>



COMMONWEALTH GAMES OPENING STATEMENT BY COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY-GENERAL KAMALESH SHARMA

19th July, 2014

Today's Opening of the 20th Commonwealth Games in Glasgow brings fresh inspiration to people of all ages, and in every member state and territory throughout our Commonwealth family. The majority of Commonwealth citizens worldwide are young people and children. This grand spectacle of sport enables our youth to gain a vision of the convening power of the Commonwealth, and the outstanding potential of its networks as an influence for good.

By advancing democracy,

development, and respect for diversity, our Commonwealth kinship and affinity help us shape a future in which there is mutual understanding and respect between people and nations, with freedom, dignity and justice, and opportunity for all to fulfil their potential so that none are left behind.

Glasgow 2014 is a showcase for friendship, and all to which our member states have committed themselves in the Commonwealth Charter. At places of work, learning, and recreation; between citizens, communities, and nations; in trade and governance; we work together

for equity and inclusiveness.

On behalf of all Commonwealth citizens I thank the City of Glasgow, the Scottish Government and people, and the Government and people of the United Kingdom for hosting this magnificent gathering and associated events. We pay tribute to the efforts of each competitor and every team for their enterprise and endeavour, and look forward to inspiring feats of performance and outstanding achievement in the days ahead.



<http://thecommonwealth.org/media/news/commonwealth-games-opening-statement-kamalesh-sharma#sthash.qblC7Yhw.dpuf>

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO MAKES PRESENCE FELT AT COMMONWEALTH GAMES 2014

The Commonwealth Games concluded on Sunday 3rd August, and after 12 days of intense competition T&T emerged with eight medals—three silver and five bronze—to improve T&T's overall medal count at the event to 52 (eight gold, 20 silver, 24 bronze).

T&T Olympic Committee (TTOC) President Brian Lewis, was encouraged by the effort of all the athletes and applauded their successes. "I am proud of our medallists and those, who made the finals and did their season's best," said Lewis in his first major competition as the head of the TTOC. "It augurs well for Pan Am in Toronto next year and Rio Olympics (2016)," he said.

It was a slow start to the 20th edition of the event but Ayanna Alexander sparked some life into the T&T camp on the seventh day, by winning this country's first medal, a bronze in the women's triple jump event, leaping to a distance of 14.01 metres at Hampden Park Stadium.

A day later, it was Cleopatra Borel and Lalonde Gordon making it three for T&T as the duo went on to nab a silver and bronze, respectively. Borel's toss of 18.57m earned her a third Commonwealth medal, bagging bronze at the 2006 Melbourne Games and a silver at the Delhi Games in 2010.

Gordon's battle-to-the-end attitude saw him cross third in the men's 400m. It was the



Keshorn Walcott leads the Trinidad and Tobago contingent. Photo: AP/Reuters

first of two bronze medals he secured, leading the 4x400m team that also included Jarrin Solomon, Renny Quow and Zwede Hewitt, two days later. Jehue Gordon ran a season's best 48.75 to win a silver medal in the 400m hurdles

final, which made it four for T&T.

On the final day of track and field, the expectations were high for T&T to make it unto the podium. Olympic champion Keshorn Walcott

NEWS / THE COMMONWEALTH & CARICOM

and both the 4x100 relay team of Richard Thompson, Marc Burns, Rondel Sorrillo and Keston Bledman and the 4x400m did just that.

Walcott, only the previous day, had broken his own national record throwing 85.28 in the opening round to better the 84.58m standard he had set in winning gold in 2012, had his best throw on the sixth and final round of 82.67, to

capture the second major title of his career, a silver medal.

Earlier in that week, Thompson and Bledman, both Olympic silver medallists, missed out on qualifying for the 100m final while Sorrillo was eliminated in the 200m event. Failures that left a sour feeling with the trio, however, they did well to bounce back and placed third in 38.10 with the help of Burns. Lalonde, Solomon,

Quow and Hewitt combined to clock 3:01.51 in the 4x400m final to seize a bronze.

The night before though, at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre (SECC), Michael Alexander nabbed a bronze medal also. Despite being defeated by Northern Ireland's Joe Fitzgerald in the semifinals of the men's lightweight boxing division, Alexander was guaranteed a

medal even before entering the ring as losing semifinalists are awarded bronze medals.

Lewis, who got a chance to see the local athletes in action, said, evaluating some of their performances, that he saw promise which was good for the future.



<http://www.guardian.co.uk/sport/2014-08-04/back-drawing-board-tt-sports>



Pictured 1) Bronze medalists Keston Bledman, Marc Burns, Rondel Sorrillo and Richard Thompson pose after Men's 4 x 100m Relay Final; **2)** Boxer Michael Alexander in action against Ireland's Joe Fitzpatrick in the men's 60 kg semifinals, wins T&T's 5th medal of the Games; **3)** (L-R) Njisane Phillip of Trinidad and Tobago, Matthew Crampton of England and Philip Hinds of England compete during the Men's Sprint First Round Repechage at Sir Chris Hoy Velodrome. **4)** Ayanna Alexander proudly displays the flag after her bronze medal win; **5)** Keshorn Walcott displays the flag after winning his silver medal; **6)** Trinidad and Tobago rugby team in action. **Photos -** Glasgow2014.com, Associated Press, Cameron Spencer/Getty Images Europe.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO HIGH COMMISSION COMMEMORATES EMANCIPATION WITH TWO DAY CELEBRATION



Creative Learning Circuit Director, Debora De Gazon performs during Emancipation Celebrations

In commemoration of Emancipation, the Trinidad and Tobago High Commission, London, embarked upon a two-day programme themed “Emancipation – it is our past which will inform our future”. In this light and as part of a larger engagement initiated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs through the recognition of the United Nations Declaration of the International Decade of People of African Descent, the High Commission identified various activities aimed at raising awareness and clarifying popular misconceptions.

The celebrations commenced on Wednesday 30th July, 2014, with the then Acting High Commissioner, Mrs. Reshma Bissoon-Deokie, delivering a welcome address to nationals. In emphasising the significance of this year’s theme, she expressed the wish for us to “stand in full cognizance of the remarkable triumph of our ancestors who withstood the gravest experiences of injustice and rose to produce a people who refused to be consumed

by anger and vindictiveness”. She continued by noting that reflection and learning from our history enabled the manifestation of freedom and equity in all that we do, ultimately ensuring the fulfilment of “the dreams of our forefathers for a better world”.

Attendees were then hosted a screening of the documentary entitled, “Slave Routes: A Global Vision”, produced by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). The film proved to be highly edifying for its viewers, as it explored the

global effects of the mass movement of African people who helped build societies in their new lands, and showcased in contrast, the devastating effects of slavery on Africa’s people, economies and cultures. In further illustrating the distortion of history to justify slavery, the documentary reiterated the power and strength of early African civilisations and the need for a re-examination of the past through a new lens.

This was followed by a riveting presentation by educator and activist, Professor Gus John. In his stirring address,

“Emancipation – still a work in progress: Recognition, Justice and Development”, Professor John encouraged the audience to take pride in the strength of African people and their achievements to ensure that the past would not be repeated. “Collective responsibility sustained those who went before us,” he stated. “Let us recover that consciousness and lay a strong foundation for our children”.

The High Commission’s Emancipation celebrations continued on Friday 1st August, 2014. Guests were first invited to view an exhibition displaying information on the arrival of the African slaves in Trinidad and Tobago, the hardships of slavery and the battle to Emancipation, in the High Commission’s reception area. This was followed by a cultural event showcasing the cuisine, music and fashion inspired by our African heritage.

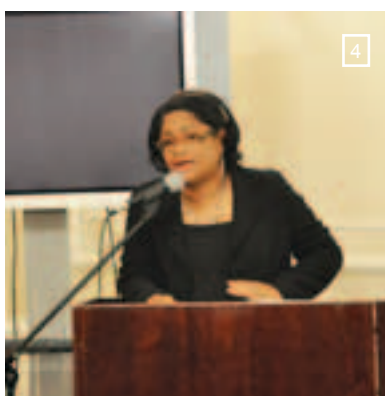
The Creative Learning Circuit, led by Ms. Debora De Gazon, put on a moving folklore presentation. The dramatic



Nationals watching the UNESCO documentary ‘Slave Routes: A Global Vision’.

monologue which drew upon the Trinidad and Tobago experience of slavery simultaneously incorporated the rich literary and cultural offerings which developed in spite of such tragic circumstances. As one of the evening's highlights, Ms. Aretha Marie-Jah, Director of Bombo Kloth Clothing, showcased the diversity of African-inspired couture in presenting a catwalk of garments to be utilized by both men and women for a range of occasions. These contributions were interspersed with lively musical performances by the Caribbean Master Drummers led by Mr. Kent James. It was noteworthy that this group featured two young drummers, reiterating James' call for ancestral skills to be passed to the younger generation. At the conclusion of the festivities, guests were treated to an array of dishes which included stewed chicken, coo coo, callaloo and dumplings and local beverages such as mauby and ginger beer.

Undoubtedly, the High Commission's celebrations not only captivated its patrons but crystallised a strong sentiment, amongst this country's nationals in London, that the rich history which molded Trinidad and Tobago must be kept alive in our hearts, minds and actions.



PICTURED: 1) Mrs. Reshma Bissoon-Deokie, Acting High Commissioner addressing the audience; 2) Ms. Keisha Rochford-Hawkins, Second Secretary introducing film - *Slave Routes*; 3) Prof. Gus John delivering the feature address; 4) Mrs. Beverley Awonaya delivering the Vote fo Thanks; 5) Prof. Gus John greeting nationals; 6) Nationals dressed in African wear; 7) Caribbean Master Drummers performing in front of the High Commission; 8-10) Part of the decorations on the day depicting our African heritage; 11) Ms. Achi-Kemba Phillips, Tourism Attaché as Master of Ceremonies on the evening; 12) Dancers from the Caribbean Master Drummers perform; 13) Fashion outfits from Bombo Kloth Clothing; 14) Caribbean Master Drummers.



NEWS / THE MISSION

NATIONALS REFLECT ON EID-UL-FITR MESSAGE OF PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY TO HELP FELLOW MAN

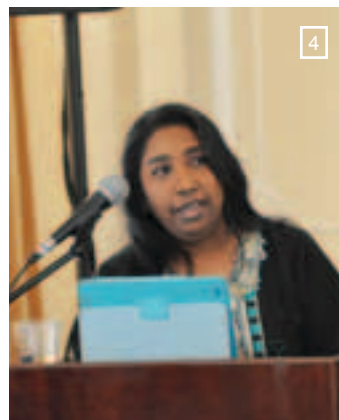
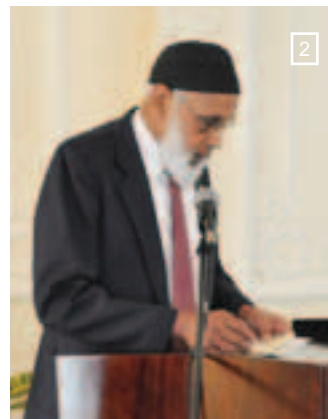
On Saturday 9th August, 2014, the Trinidad and Tobago High Commission, London, held its annual Eid-ul-Fitr celebrations. A packed audience gathered to commemorate the conclusion of the holy month of Ramadan with an uplifting evening of prayer, reflection and staid celebration.

Mrs. Reshma Bissoon-Deokie, then Acting High Commissioner, welcomed those gathered. In sharing her thoughts on the significance of Eid, she recounted the remarkable sense of community which was fostered as all people of the Muslim faith, regardless of class, joined together during Ramadan to fast and dwell in a state of goodness.

The event which was chaired by Dr. Ozair Hasnain, included the participation of Imam Rasheed Khan who delivered the opening prayer, and Ms. Jenny Panjwani, who performed a Qaseeda (traditional Islamic song). The feature address was delivered by eminent barrister, Mrs. Asela El Morsy JP, LLB. Mrs. El Morsy shared her profound reflections on the lessons of Eid. "Eid calls for a renewal of our sense of responsibility," she stated. "Our faith must catch up to our reason, or else we are lost. While, we can't change human nature, we can change human nurture, and we must foster

courage, hope and mutual understanding to work towards a better world".

At the conclusion of the proceedings, guests enjoyed a meal of meat and vegetarian biryani dishes. Nationals were also delighted to receive a piece of home, when they were treated to sawine, a traditional sweet delicacy served in Trinidad and Tobago at Eid.



PICTURED: 1) Dr. Ozair Hasnain, Master of Ceremonies; 2) Imam Rasheed Khan delivering the opening prayer; 3) Mrs. Reshma Bissoon-Deokie, Acting High Commissioner delivering the Eid message; 4) Mrs. Asela El Morsy JP LLB delivering the feature address; 5) Ms. Jenny Panjwani and daughter Nafroz performing a Qaseeda (traditional Islamic song); 6) A cross section of the attendees;



7) Nationals listening intently to the traditional Islamic Song; 8) Mrs. Khan with friends 10) Guests partaking of the sumptuous dinner; 11-12) Nationals all smiles after a lovely meal; 13) Mr. Ken and Mrs Savitri Maharaj.

Drink Blue Waters to detoxify.



Blue Waters is the Key to a Healthier Lifestyle!

FOR WHEN YOU FEEL LIKE SHARING...



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO NATIONALS IN LONDON CELEBRATE 52ND YEAR OF INDEPENDENCE



Father Robert Christo delivering the Homily at the St. Peter's Eaton Square

Trinidad and Tobago nationals residing in the United Kingdom celebrated the 52nd Anniversary of Independence on Sunday 31st August, 2014 with an Interfaith Service at the St. Peter's Church, Eaton Square, London.

The chosen theme for the service was "Harmony in Diversity" which was reflected in the readings and teachings from the various representatives from the Christian, Spiritual Shouter Baptist, Hindu and Muslim faiths who all played an integral role in the Service.

Master Adem Zein Ghany reading from the Holy Qur'an asserted that "Whoever does right, it is only for the good of his soul, and whoever errs, errs only to its detriment; while Mrs Omadaye Sawh on behalf of the Hindu Community prayed that "we contemplate the nature of [the Lord's] Blissful Divinity of devotion." Reverend Patricia Stephens, bringing greetings on behalf of the Spiritual Shouter Baptist

movement in the U.K., harked on fond memories of being a young journalist when Trinidad and Tobago became Independent. Reverend Stephens reiterated the Honourable Prime Minister's call to Nationals to consider the way forward.

Fr. Edmund Cargill-Thompson, Vicar at St. Peter's Church reminded those gathered of the importance of diversity. He remarked that "God has made each one of us beautifully different" and "a body only works if it has different organs performing separate functions".

Mrs. Reshma Bissoon-Deokie, then Acting High Commissioner delivered Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar's message to the nation in recognition of this occasion. The Honourable Prime Minister, in her message, reminded that "our history, cultural legacy, resources, economic success and the contribution of our people in many international fora often

appear inconsistent with the geographic size of our country" and further challenged nationals to "continue to stand as a beacon of harmony in diversity, religious tolerance and multicultural acceptance".

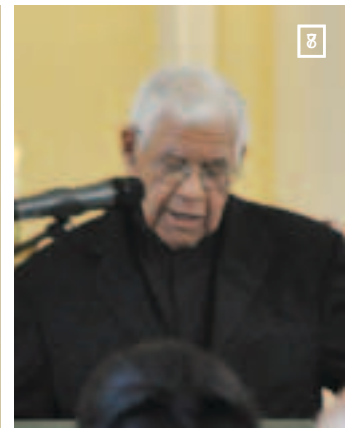
Leading a rousing benediction and giving a spirited homily was Fr. Robert Christo, Episcopal Vicar for Evangelisation and Roman Catholic Parish Priest of Gran Couva and Tabaquite in Trinidad. Fr. Christo asked that those gathered seek to find "harmony in the diversity and diversity in the harmony." He called on everyone to reflect on the extent to which they were "agents of harmony".

Throughout the service, hymns and

songs of praise led by Mr. Dave Marcus and performances by the B.I.G. Choir, contributed to the soulful and stirring atmosphere where nationals waved national flags to the beat of the music.



Officer Cadet Mc Inniss, Flag Bearer and Officer Cadet Oliverie salutes the flag.



Pictured: 1) Fr. Edmund Cargill-Thompson deliver the Welcome and introduction of the Inter-Faith Service theme - *Harmony in Diversity*; 2) The B.I.G. Choir singing; 3) A cross section of the jubilant congregation. 4) Acting High Commissioner, Mrs. Reshma Bissoon-Deokie, delivers her address; 5) Mr. Ade Zein delivers the first reading from the Holy Qur'an on behalf of the Muslim Community; 6) Mrs. Omadaye Sawh delivers the second reading on behalf of the Hindu Community; 7) Reverend Patricia Stephens speaking on behalf of the Baptist Community; 8) Fr. John Metiver delivers the closing prayer; 9) Dave Marcus and company leading the hymn for the congregation; 10) Tourism Attaché, Ms. Achi-Kemba Phillips co-ordinator of the service

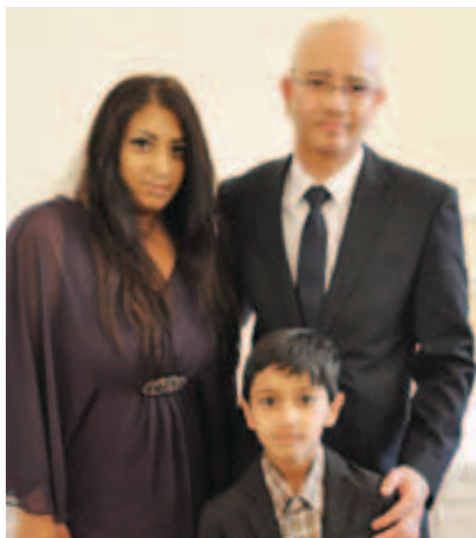


Pictured: 1) Nationals happy to wave and sing along; 2) Officer Cadet Mc Inniss, Flag Bearer leads the procession of the Celebrants down the aisle; 3) (L-R) Acting High Commissioner, Mrs. Reshma Bissoon-Deokie, Fr. John Metiver, Fr. Robert Christo, Reverend Patricia Stephens and Fr. Edmund Cargill-Thompson; 4) Acting High Commissioner, Mrs. Reshma Bissoon-Deokie with Ms. Jacqueline Glasgow, MBE; 5) (L-R) Sister Monica, Fr. Edmund Cargill-Thompson, Tourism Attaché, Ms. Achi-Kemba Phillips, Fr. Robert Christo and Mrs. Beverley Awonaya; 6) (From right) Mrs. Jeanette De Couteau with her son and daughter-in-law; 7) Guests enjoy



a meal at the High Commission; **8)** (From left) Mr. Brent Holder, MBE with members of his band providing music at the reception held at the High Commission after the Interfaith Service; **9)** Shirley Ramnarine and friends; **10)** (From right) Ms. Savitri Persad and friends; **11)** (Third from left) Mrs. Bissoon-Deokie with nationals; **12)** Three generations of Trinbago diaspora (From right) Mrs. Shirley Ramnarine and husband Aduja, with their grandchildren and daughter; **13)** Mrs. Isabella Birdal, Mrs. Pauline Birbal and daughter; **14-15)** Nationals enjoying the evening; **16)** Musicians from the Gran Couva and Tabquite Roman Catholic Church.

FAREWELL TO IMMIGRATION ATTACHÉ, MR. MARLON CHOO YING



Immigration Attaché,
Mr. Marlon Choo Ying
and Family

On 25th July, 2014, the Trinidad and Tobago High Commission, London, bid farewell to Immigration Attaché, Mr. Marlon Choo Ying. Mr. Choo Ying has truly been an asset to the Mission and we wish him all the best as he continues to serve Trinidad and Tobago.

OCTOBER 2014



FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES INTEREST RATES

CURRENCY	BUYING	SELLING	CASH
Great British Pound	10.4265	10.6501	9.78000
United States Dollar	6.3957	6.4665	6.10000
European Euro	8.4861	8.947	8.17000
Canadian Dollar	5.9159	6.2215	5.67000

Interest Rates (%): 10 October 2014

Discount Rate	0.00
Special Deposit Rate	0.00
Repo Rate	0.00
Prime Lending Rate	0.00
Overnight Interbank	0.00

Information based on Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago figures at time of print

<http://www.central-bank.org.tt>

OVER 400

MULTI-NATIONALS HAVE ALREADY INVESTED IN TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.

What are you waiting on?

Visit www.investtt.co.tt to find out why.

Contact Information:
Tel: +1 (868) 638-0038
Fax: +1 (868) 675-9125
Email: info@investtt.co.tt

investTT
Trinidad and Tobago





FRONTIER INTERNATIONAL BOLSTERS PRESENCE IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

L-R, Mark Clarke, Frontier International Chairman and Paul Radcliffe, Frontier International Managing Director.

Frontier International, specialists in international oil and gas resourcing, has established a subsidiary in Trinidad and Tobago as a part of its continuing strategy of global growth.

Frontier provides engineering and technical personnel to the oil and gas industry and has expanded to the region in order to meet customer demand, providing an enhanced service to potential and existing contracts in the area.

In business since 1999, Frontier International was established in Aberdeen, UK, by oil industry engineers Mark Clarke and Paul Radcliffe in response to industry requirement for expertise-driven management of specialist well design and drilling engineering. Quickly identifying a gap in the market, Frontier grew in answer to the lack of technical expertise within the industry's recruitment of staff, contractors and project management teams.

With an exceptional understanding of the engineering disciplines for which they recruit, Frontier's resourcing specialists have a unique ability to perceive their clients' requirements – and the capacity to recruit and place the

optimum candidates for each role.

This expansion into Trinidad and Tobago represents the next step in Frontier's international growth plans and comes as part of their ongoing contract with an international E&P company. Frontier has been providing engineering and technical personnel in Trinidad and Tobago since January 2012, having recently acquired a significant global contract.

Mark Clarke, Frontier International Chairman looks forward to continuing to service the Trinidad and Tobago region: "Our work and recent contract agreement in Trinidad and Tobago is testament to the demand for the niche services we offer. In order to meet the growing demand of our customers, it was inevitable that establishing a subsidiary in Trinidad and Tobago would be the next stage for Frontier.

"We are currently working with a local partner and intend to employ a local Frontier representative as business volume increases. Expanding to Trinidad and Tobago has been part of a long term goal for Frontier and our presence here demonstrates our commitment to our clients in the region."

The expansion follows a successful year

for Frontier. The company has reported a 70% increase in turnover the first half of 2014, when compared to 2013 and has also increased its recruitment team by 100% in the last year.

Mark believes that the company's success can be attributed to that in-depth technical understanding of the oil and gas sector. He continues: "We have had a very successful year so far, significantly surpassing the previous year's performance, gaining several new contracts and increasing our expert personnel. We look forward to continuing this success in Trinidad and Tobago, whilst building our international portfolio."

With a reputation for quality, integrity and professionalism, Frontier is a preferred supplier to the majority of the world's leading oil and gas companies. Frontier focuses on professional, technical and managerial sectors of this market covering all disciplines related to Exploration, Drilling, Well Completion, Field Development, Design, Construction, Commissioning, Production, Well Servicing, and Decommissioning.

Visit www.frontierinternational.co for further information.

EYE ON TRADE

Photo: Rider Levett Bucknall



Managing Director of RLB's Caribbean operations Mark Williamson.

by **MARK WILLIAMSON**

Global Construction and Property Consultants Rider Levett Bucknall (RLB) are set to open an office in Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago in early 2015.

The international company operates from over one hundred offices around the world employing more than 3,500 staff. The Port of Spain office will be RLB's fifth office in the Caribbean region.

RIDER LEVETT BUCKNALL – TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

Managing Director of RLB's Caribbean operations Mark Williamson said "we have been operating in the Caribbean for over 40 years, despite the economic challenges over the last few years, we have managed to grow our local business adding to our two established offices in The Cayman Islands and Barbados with a new office in the Bahamas and another recently opened office in Saint Lucia".

The company is seeing an increase in resort activity throughout the Caribbean, and are becoming more involved in development opportunities in Central and South America, "... we see an office in Port of Spain as the ideal location to manage our Latin America opportunities in addition to servicing clients based in and/or investing in Trinidad & Tobago". In addition to our hospitality and leisure

expertise, we have a strong track record in infrastructure projects, this expertise will be of great value to both the public and private sector as countries seek to upgrade and invest in new infrastructure via Public Private Partnerships (PPP).

RLB has 19 offices in China and are providing services to Chinese businesses investing overseas. Williamson stated "we are currently providing project monitoring services for Export import Bank of China on the Baha Mar mega resort in Nassau. This US \$2.6bn project demonstrates RLB's ability to serve clients globally, a client based in Beijing investing significant sums into a development thousands of miles away, requires local knowledge and advice to assist with safeguarding the investment, our Cayman, Bahamas, London and Beijing offices worked together to

service the client's needs".

RLB has been considering opening an office in Port of Spain for several years, the time is now right. Trinidad & Tobago's reputation as a business and financial centre, coupled with its engineering and petro - chemical industries makes the country an ideal base for RLB to operate from. The good air links to the Americas and Europe were a very important factor in our decision to invest in Trinidad & Tobago, as a global business, our people are fluid in where they work, good transport links are essential for us.

In addition to the company's expansion in the Caribbean, the company recently opened an office in Toronto, Canada.

For more information on Rider Levett Bucknall visit: www.rlb.com

THE INTERNATIONALIZATION IMPERATIVE PT 1

by **DR. NIGEL L. WILLIAMS**

This article explores the characteristics of countries like Trinidad and Tobago that require policymakers and business owners to take the issue of internationalization seriously. Small developing countries, like Trinidad and Tobago, tend to have a narrow resource base, (relatively) weak institutions and a high degree of openness (Easterly and Kraay 2000). For organizations from these states, internationalization is an imperative rather than a choice due to the small home market. The governments of these states have expended significant effort in order to build international firms utilizing a variety of policy instruments (Downes 2004); however results to date have been mixed. As former

colonies, Caribbean islands have long been integrated into the world economy, importing labour and exporting commodities to Europe and later, the United States (Demas 1978). Like many other colonies in Africa and Asia, the nations of the Caribbean became independent in the 1960s and '70s (Payne and Sutton 2001). Unlike their larger counterparts, however, Caribbean countries have distinctive constraints in the form of:

1) Externally driven economies

Over its history, Caribbean nations have relied on exports. During the colonial period, they exported commodities such as sugar for processing at the colonial centre. Post independence, economic structures

have reconfigured to incorporate services such as tourism and semi-finished goods such as petrochemicals. They are however, still heavily export dependent. Due to their export dependence, external events impact significantly on local conditions. For example, changes in oil prices vary domestic incomes significantly. In some countries production of key export commodities are dominated by large multinationals whose corporate decisions may dictate economic performance (Pantin, Sandiford et al. 2002).

2) Higher per capita income than many developing countries

Partially due to their long history of exports, most Caribbean countries can be classified as middle income developing countries. This factor makes them inherently unattractive for industries that rely on low cost labour such as the garment industry.

3) Former dependence on preferential access Schemes

A significant proportion of Caribbean exports relied on trade agreements for access to markets. For example, the region's agricultural commodities such as Sugar and Bananas were sold under long term arrangements with Europe at a higher price than those produced by rivals. As institutional structures were configured around these arrangements, they inhibit redeployment or diversification into other areas.

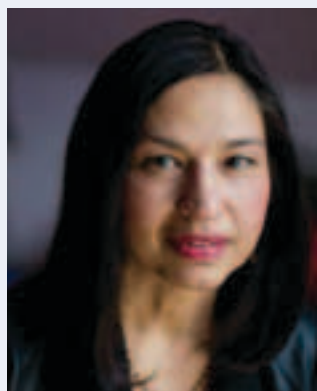
The heavy dependence on a narrow range of exports has been of great concern to Caribbean states. Their openness results in a higher level of exposure to the demands of international competition without many of the tools available to their larger counterparts. Primarily through application of policy, States have attempted to diversify their economies

to produce a wider range of items and generate employment. The small and fragmented nature of Caribbean markets however, means that output from these industries needed to be directed towards international markets for any success (Farrell 1980). The focus of these efforts was therefore to initially attract established foreign multinationals and then develop international exporters from the Caribbean (Downes 2004).

With a small domestic market, economic diversification necessitates export diversification and previous work can provide little useful guidance. Research on Caribbean business has tended to focus on the economy as the unit of analysis, examining competitiveness (Wint 2003), such as the effect of trade policies on exports (McIntyre 1995), the attractiveness of the Caribbean for Foreign Direct Investment (Barclay 2000) and the effectiveness of industrial policy (Mottley

2008). The few studies that examine the activities of firms have attempted to fit theory created in developed countries to the small state environment such as the effect of managerial mindsets on exports (Garvey 2002). With little useful research and limited institutional capacity (Peres 2006), the T&T Government, like others in developing countries tend to borrow and adapt established economic frameworks, with sub-optimal results (Baldacchino 1993). An increased understanding as to how firms internationalize from T&T can aid in the development of the T&T export sector, guiding the design of targeted interventions that best utilize state resources. The next article in this series will summarize the history and outcomes of economic intervention in T&T.

Dr. Nigel L. Williams is a citizen of Trinidad and Tobago and Senior Lecturer at Bournemouth University.



PROFESSOR HEIDI MIRZA RECEIVED A MEDIA DIVERSIFIED EIGHT WOMEN AWARD FOR HER RESEARCH IN RACE, GENDER AND IDENTITY

Heidi Safia Mirza is Professor of Race, Faith and Culture at Goldsmith's College, University of London. She is also Emeritus Professor at the Institute of Education, University of London. Heidi has an international reputation for championing equality and human rights through educational reform. She comes from Trinidad and Tobago, where she was recently recognised for her 'contribution to academia' to mark the 50th Anniversary of Independence. As one of the few professors of colour in Britain, Heidi uses postcolonial and black

feminist theoretical frameworks to explore social justice issues for Muslim, black and minority ethnic women and young people. Her research projects include multicultural and teacher education, diversity in higher education, and cultural and religious difference, including Islamophobia and gendered violence. Heidi advises English Heritage on diversity and established the Runnymede Collection at the Black Cultural Archives (BCA), a race-relations archive documenting the late 20th Century civil rights struggle for Multicultural Britain. She is author of several best-selling books including, *Young Female and Black* (Routledge 1992); *Black British Feminism* (Routledge 1997); *Race Gender and Educational Desire: Why black women succeed and fail* (Routledge 2009); and most recently, *Respecting Difference: Race, Faith, and Culture for Teacher Educators* (IOE 2012).

Background and Diaspora statement

I am a citizen of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, a privileged position enjoyed for some 50 plus years. My youth in the oilfields of Palo Seco, Santa Flora and later Fyzabad was influenced by my father Ralph Hosier, one of the first T&T nationals to be employed as a senior executive for BP (Company Secretary 1964-1990). He was a pioneering figure in the early movement to nationalize the oil industry and a great influence on my quest for social justice and equality in my own work.

My excellent schooling at Naparima Girls High school San Fernando was closely linked to my Indo-Caribbean family heritage. My grandmother and grandfather (Teresa and Rev T.A Hosein) were founding members of Naparima and St Augustine

Girls High School. As patron of the Naparima Alumni Association in the UK, I still hold strong connections to my alma mater.

I am deeply committed to my 'roots' in T&T and 'giving back' by lending my expertise on education for social transformation. The dynamic development of trade and industry in T&T provides many opportunities for Diaspora professionals, such as myself to contribute our global skills and expertise. I am currently working with a team from Deloitte & Touche, Trinidad and Tobago to undertake a curriculum review of Cipriani College of Labour and Co-operative Studies. It is an inspirational experience to work with world class professional colleagues in Trinidad and Tobago, dedicated to raising the achievements of their students.

Who we are & what we do

Range Resources Limited is a
dual listed (ASX: RRS; AIM: RRL)
Trinidad-focused independent
E&P company

Solid reserves base in Trinidad

- Three oil producing assets and largest private onshore acreage holder in Trinidad
- Solid reserve base in well-known, easy-to-access reservoirs
- In-house drilling and services company providing guaranteed rig capacity and other resources

Poised for production growth

- Extensive low-cost shallow onshore development drilling programme, combined with low-risk waterflood projects
- Strong operational team with over 15 years company experience in Trinidad
- Strengthened, production focused senior management team supported by experienced Board of Directors

Our values

"At Range, being socially responsible goes beyond fulfilling legal obligations. It is about how we do business by demonstrating a commitment to our people and the communities in which we operate."

Rory Scott Russell,
CEO of Range Resources



Image top: CEO, Rory Scott Russell at the site visit in Trinidad

Image above: Energy Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, Kevin Ramnarine meets Range Resources team in Trinidad

RANGE

Focus on growing oil production in Trinidad

"Trinidadians are known for being top drillers and I would love to attract some of that talent back to the island and onshore."

Rory Scott Russell, CEO of Range Resources



STUDENT ARTICLE: A FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY!

by RINNELLE LEE-PIGGOTTE

My name is Rinnelle Lee-Piggotte and I am in my third year at the University of Nottingham pursuing a PhD in Education. My research draws attention to the leadership of new primary school principals as they negotiate school change within existing school cultures. My experience has been a learning one as I am required to read extensively, to apply a high level of critical thinking in my use of literature published within my field and in analysis and interpretation of data collected during my course of study. My supervisors have been especially instrumental in developing my thinking in these ways. Other

opportunities for personal and professional development are had through the university's graduate school, which offers a wide range of essential short courses of which I partake to make myself more marketable and useful in the workplace on my return to Trinidad.

Being at a Russell Group university, also offers uncommon opportunities to rub shoulders with internationally acclaimed academics in supervision sessions, seminars, conferences, or just over coffee (I just have tea). Such opportunities have greatly inspired me. I have had the privilege to collaborate

with personnel at England's National College for Teaching and Leadership on career planning of school leaders and embraced the opportunity to give a presentation at my school's Postgraduate Researchers (PGR) 2013 Conference, only to come away as first place winner. I've become a member of the British Educational Leadership, Management and Administration Society (BELMAS) and will present a research paper at its upcoming 2014 conference. I'm so excited!

Additionally, facilities, particularly library and study facilities, are great and there

are fantastic opportunities for internships and trips across England. There are even events planned for students whose families reside with them, such as Christmas parties and Easter fun events. My family and I have had great fun, especially at the one or two times with other Trinis in the United Kingdom, such as those put on by the High Commission.

So, I am grateful to God and the Government of Trinidad and Tobago for affording me this life-changing experience and fantastic opportunity!

STUDENT POEM: AM I A WALCOTT OR A NAIPAUL?

by JAROME ALI.

About three y Common experience: thoughts drifting away
On a plane or a boat or in a textbook,
Headed for some kind of journey
Or destination or discovery of I don't know what.
Am I a Walcott or a Naipaul?
Do the virgin shores draped
in ocean mist speak to me?
Is the canefield my burden or my blessing?
Is the paint of race splattered on my being
in broad, callous strokes or woven into a San Fernando sunset?
Can I wield the light of the world
or will I say 'it is what it is'?
Am I a Walcott or a Naipaul?

TURKEY TO ESTABLISH EMBASSY IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Turkey will soon establish an embassy in Trinidad and Tobago, which is expected to service the entire Caricom region.

Foreign Affairs Minister Winston Dookeran made the announcement following the first Caricom-Turkey Consultation and Cooperation meeting, from July 18-20 in Istanbul, Turkey.

According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, "At the meeting, Minister Dookeran spoke on the issue of the advocacy of Turkey on behalf of the Caribbean Community at the G20, of which Turkey is a member and assumes chairmanship of that group in 2015".

While in Ankara, Minister Dookeran "urged Turkey to use the G20 summit to advocate the Caricom position in respect

of issues on its agenda, particularly the notion of "graduation", which would effectively curtail access to financing for countries of the region if the old formula of per capita based assessment is utilised.

The ministry added: "Minister Dookeran further made reference to international financial rule-making, pointing out that small economies willing to comply with financial rules must also be participants in the determination of those rules."

Minister Dookeran also thanked Turkey for pledging its support for Trinidad and Tobago's bid to host the Secretariat of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) in Port of Spain.



<http://www.trinidadexpress.com/news/Turkey-to-establish-embassy-in-TT-269138421.html>

TURKISH VISA INFORMATION FOR TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO CITIZENS

Trinidad and Tobago ordinary and official passport holders are exempted from visa for their travels up to 90 days.

<http://www.mfa.gov.tr/visa-information-for-foreigners.en.mfa>



RUTHLAND BIRD FAIR 2014

by IVAN CHARLES,
AN ECO ADVENTURE TOUR GUIDE
& OPERATOR. TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

Being an Eco Adventure Guide in Trinidad and Tobago, I was commissioned by Trinidad and Tobago Tourism Development Company (TDC) to attend the popular Bird Fair in Rutland, England on 15th - 17th August 2014.

I embraced this wonderful experience and challenge to advertise my country Trinidad & Tobago to an enthusiastic audience of nature lovers. There are not many places in the world an eco adventure lover can visit and feel completely at home surrounded with like-minded people. While as the name suggest - Bird Fair focuses on birding however, there is much room for the wildlife enthusiast in a holistic sense. Any country which harbours many interesting wildlife, this event is, "a must do" to advertise all your natural, Fauna and Flora treasures to the world.

Bird Fair is an Expo with many Exhibitors and sits directly in the path of Trinidad & Tobago's Tourism products.

Trinidad and Tobago is uniquely seated on the South American Plate which means Trinidad & Tobago are physically an off-shore, South American country. With this in mind, Trinidad & Tobago can boast of the largest collection of Birds in the Caribbean. **With approximately 465 recorded Birds this gives Trinidad & Tobago one of the highest concentrations of Birds per square mile in the world.** All to do with the South American ecological influences.

Bird Watchers and general Wildlife and Nature Travelers generally do their research before booking an expedition to a country. During my 3-days at Bird Fair and after speaking with patrons, I was not surprised to hear that many had been to Trinidad & Tobago or are planning a trip there in the near future. Obvious attractions in Tobago were Main Ridge and Little Tobago Island. In Trinidad, Asa Wright Nature Centre and Caroni Bird Sanctuary/ Swamp. All these attractions are the most popular Birding places in Trinidad & Tobago.

The people who attend this



type of Expo, are not there for the frills but to enjoy fun learning about a country's all natural wildlife treasures.

I thoroughly enjoyed my experiences at Bird Fair 2014 and highly recommend this Bird Fair Expo to any avid, nature lover!

Pictured: (back row) Mr. Newton George, Ms. Diane George of NG Comapny and Nature Tours, Mr. Rene Seepersad King, Blue Waters Inn. Mr. Ivan Charles and (front row) Mr. Nigel Wilson, Division of Tourism, THA, Edith Thomas, Mr. Darrin DesVignes, T&T Tourism Board (UK) and Ms. Achi-Kemba Phillips, Tourism Attaché.

10 THINGS ABOUT ECO-TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO WITH NEWTON GEORGE, TOBAGO'S PREMIER BIRD WATCHING AND NATURAL HISTORY GUIDE

NG & Co. Nature Tours: www.newtongeorge.com
newton@newtongeorge.com

1. The Tobago Main Ridge Forest Reserve is the oldest protected Forest in the Western Hemisphere and was established in 1765 for its water shed protection
2. Birders travel from far and wide to see the Blue Backed Manakin, White tailed Sabrewing Hummingbird in Tobago
3. There is a small island off the northeastern coast of Tobago called Little Tobago which is the home to the Red-Footed and Brown Booby, and Red Billed Tropic birds
4. Trinidad is the home of two endemic bird species- the Piping-guan (Pawi) and the Trinidad Mot Mot
5. ASA Wright Nature Center, Trinidad is the premier bird sanctuary and in the Region
6. Oil bird is the only nocturnal fruit eating bird in the world
7. 465 bird species were recorded thus far in Trinidad and Tobago with 270 sighted in Tobago
8. One of the most beautiful birds found in Trinidad is the Guacharo (*Steatornis caripensis* or popularly called the Oil Bird (the Scarlet Ibis and the Bell Bird too)
9. Tobago's prize for beauty goes to the Blue Backed Manakin
10. Tobago is home to the world's largest brain coral recorded in the Western Hemisphere. It measure 10ft(3M) high and 16ft(5.3M) across and sits 55ft(17.5M) deep



Above: The Trinidad and Tobago booth attracted lots of interest from wildlife and nature travelers.

AN INTRODUCTION TO WILDLIFE & ADVENTURE TOURISM IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO



At Left: Ivan Charles with a group of people in Brasso Paria Bay Waterfall Blanch Camp Expedition at start of the Paria Bay Nature Walk. **At Right:** A elated group of tourists at the Maracas Waterfall and Naranja Pools. **Photo: Ivan Charles**

by **IVAN CHARLES**,
AN ECO ADVENTURE TOUR GUIDE
& OPERATOR. TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

Situated between 10.2 – 11.5 degrees N & 60.5 – 61.6 degrees W, this makes Trinidad & Tobago the most southerly isles of the Caribbean.

Together, these two islands formed one twin-island Republic Nation -Trinidad and Tobago.

Although Trinidad sits in the West Indian Island Chain adorned with Volcanic Islands, its physical composition is not Volcanic. Trinidad is located approx 13kms off Venezuela and believed to have been separated from the South American Mainland as little as 10,000 - 15,000 years ago when massive glacier melting occurred, thus creating a rise in ocean levels.

The island is mostly made of sedimentary rocks and Geologists describe Trinidad as

an off-shore, South American Island.

Its premier Northern Mountain Range, is simply an extension of the Paria Peninsular which forms the North Eastern Andean Mountain Chain in Venezuela.

The flora and fauna on this island are intense due to various, natural ecosystems and of course the South American Continental ecological influences.

Adding to its rich diversities, it must be noted that Trinidad was a major, Agricultural Research Centre for the British. This meant a medley of exotic varieties of trees and plants were introduced from numerous other colonies which once comprised the former British Empire.

The Montane and Evergreen Forests attract their own peculiar wildlife of mammals & widely known South

American rodent – the Agouti.

Swamps saturated by either Fresh or Brackish Water each containing its Mangrove or Palm Forest habitat.

Savannahs for their unique grasses and Palms all add to a complex nature on an island approx 4700sq kms in area.

One is constantly within 2hrs of a different attraction. Each point of the compass someone travels, there are things of immense interests for the lover of Great Outdoors.

In the densely forested, Northern Mountain Range, numerous adventure attractions such as hiking to exotic rivers & waterfalls, swimming through eerie river gorges, backpacking & camping in tents on secluded beaches at night to view the nesting of giant; Leather-Back Turtles and jungle trekking to our highest mountains can all be experienced.

Internationally recognized Asa Wright Nature Centre nestled high in the Northern Mountain Range, is a sort of Mecca for any Birding and Nature Loving Traveler to the Caribbean.

Kayaking or taking an opened-air boat to cruise through the Caroni Bird Sanctuary/ Swamp located in the Central Western Coastline is a most memorable experience while stalking our coveted, National Bird – The Scarlet Ibis. Here also an inordinate, impressive Mangrove habitat is found in tidal, brackish water.

Nariva Swamp situated along parts of the Central Eastern Coastline with its Bush Bush Island housing two local varieties of Monkeys i.e. White Fronted Capuchin & Red Howler Monkeys.

It's not uncommon to sight migratory Birds sojourning in this Fresh Water Wetland as they cross the Northern &

Southern Hemispheres.

Many native water-birds and very interesting trees with elaborate root systems and trucks are all on display for the field naturalist to marvel at.

These two Swamps i.e. Caroni and Nariva are international, Ramsar Wetland Protected Sites.

Nestled inside the highest mountain in the Central Mountain Range – Mt Tamana, is internationally recognized Tamana Bat Cave.

This Mountain and Cave were formed due to the rise of an ancient, coral reef several thousand years ago. Through the course of time, the Cave became populated by Bats. Tamana Bat Cave is now home to over 1.5 Million Bats from 11 species comprising Fruit Eating, Insect Feeding, Nectar Feeding and one Common Blood Sucking Vampire Bat.

First brought to the international audience in, 'Devilbirds, Vampires and Spirits: Tales of the Caribbean Isles' (1994) done by Nick Upton of BBC Natural History, today this still very wild and all natural attraction with no frills attached, is certainly a gem for any wildlife lover.

One descends approx 20metres into a sink-hole holding on to rope. Immediately on entering the Cave, you become engrossed by marveling at numerous Bats flying around and dwelling in their natural habitat.

As twilight sets in, you stand at the mouth of the Cave to witness a mass exodus of bats dispersing on a feeding frenzy.

After witnessing this spectacle of Bats, it's a precarious descent off the forested mountain in darkness with head lights.

Truly adventure bound with nothing at all commercialized about this jungle adventure!

To the South of the island, there is the popular Pitch Lake.

Considered a sacred site by the then Native Indians, the first Europe to discover this lake was Sir Walter Raleigh in 1595 while looking for that now fabled city of Gold - El Dorado.

This is a lake that can be described as a natural wonder of the world as it naturally produces bitumen that is used

reef for snorkeling. A few metres away from Buccoo Reef, located approx 1km in the center of the Caribbean Sea, Nylon Pool {fountain of youth} can be enjoyed as you gleefully swim in a sort of Shangri-la.

The island is also laden with enchanting beaches from end to end with lovely Beach Resorts/Sea Side accommodations strategically positioned.

To the North, there are excellent dive sights. Off Speyside Sea Side Village

numerous birds, reptiles, mammals and interesting Flora dwell there.

With approx 465 birds {including 21 Hummingbirds} shared between these two islands, this gives Trinidad & Tobago one of the highest concentrations of Birds per square mile in the world. Some Birds are very rare and even endemic to one of the islands.

Eco adventure tourism is the fastest growing brand of Tourism as the world wises-up towards conservation.

As an Introduction to Adventure & Wildlife Tourism, it's easy to recognize that Trinidad and Tobago is ripe for such a niche market.

Given the facts that Trinidad & Tobago economy is hinged on Petro-chemicals and Manufacturing Industries, this again makes us very unique when compared to most islands in the Caribbean where Resort Tourism is their main income earner.

This means the Eco Adventure Traveler can enjoy these all natural attractions in Trinidad & Tobago in a very real and "raw" manner without being overly commercialized.

With daily flights offered by numerous airlines from some of the world's popular countries and capital cities, Trinidad & Tobago promises the perfect mix of adventure travels and wildlife observations both on land and under the ocean.

When accomplished, it easy to locate a Beach Resort overlooking a picturesque bay while relaxing with favorite Rum Punches and reminiscing on a perfect holiday before returning from whence you came.



Pictured: Young Kayaking CBS - Adventure Group. **Photo:** Ivan Charles

in paving road-ways across the globe.

At times one can sight Ospreys, Vultures and Watering Birds on the Lake.

Tobago, our sister isle is located approx 30km N.E of Trinidad and amasses approx 300sq kms. There is some contention as to Tobago's origin. It's clear that Tobago is a much older island than Trinidad and for the most part its Mountain Range also an extension of the Paria Peninsular in Venezuela.

To the Southwest of the island, there is a Coral Plain where the ever popular Buccoo Reef is situated. A wonderful, coral

which harbours another reef, the largest Brain Coral in the world is anchored.

Little Tobago is a nesting island for many sea bird including the much loved Red Billed Tropical Bird.

In the center of the mountains, there is Main Ridge Forest Reserve. This parcel of land atop the mountains was declared a Forest Reserve by the British in 1776. To this date, this reservation boasts housing the oldest Forest Reserve in the Western Hemisphere.

Attracting the highest rainfall which brings much value to the island's water supply,

CULTURE & TOURISM

FOCUS ON NOTTINGHILL MAS BANDS

J'OUVERT STYLE BAND- PURE LIME

Band owner:
EDISON BRATHWAITE

When was your band started?

The idea for the chocolate Mas was formulated in 1994. My wife and I experimented with various ingredients until we were able to create a consistency suitable to be applied to the skin. The band was then established in 1996.

Our theme for 2014 is 50 year birthday- My 50th Birthday party and also the start of the countdown to Notting Hill Carnival 50th Anniversary.

Concept of Mas Band

The idea of creating a chocolate band came from my love of dirty mas, which is common in J'ouvert, Trinidad Carnival and my love for meeting and entertaining friends in family back yard a concept called 'liming' in Trinidad and Tobago. I am known to have 'pure liming' which translated mean always having a get together. I had a desire to extend this 'lime' into the streets of Notting Hill Carnival.



Pictured: Edison Brathwaite, Band Leader of Pure Lime Chocolate Mas.



Inset: The PureLime team mixing chocolate on Saturday for Nottinghill Carnival Sunday; **Above:** a snapshot of PureLime Chocolate Mas revellers in Nottinghill Carnival 2014 (NHC 2014).



What do you think of the progression of Notting Hill Carnival since the inception of your mas band.

I believe that England does not respect or have any appreciation for Nothing Hill Carnival. London, England does not give credit for the efforts made and monies spent to create beautiful art forms showcased each year.

The Media mainly covers the negatives of the Carnival such as altercations and unruly behaviours by the visiting public. The beautifully, hand created large costumes and the choreographed bands are not showcased and the designers are not interviewed. The winners of the Carnival are not announced or shown in the media.

The Councils do not prevent the public from passing through the bands. This therefore results in many costumes and floats being

trampled and damaged.

What do you think of the evolution of Carnival from?

Notting Hill Carnival currently has a good mix of bands incorporating both the bikini style and the traditional costumes, paint and chocolate t-shirt bands into the Carnival. This provides more variety for the spectators and more options for the Masqueraders.

I am currently pleased with the T-shirt band and has seen the influence on different bands, where they are trying to emulate the Trinidad J'ouvert style pattern on a Carnival Sunday where there was a vast improvement from one band, which was TnT Mudders, to now fifteen bands.

Future of your band

My dream is to make Pure Lime into a true J'ouvert and chocolate costume band, including bats, devils, sailors

and dragons.

I also want to create an old time Mas Band to parade on Monday, but my major issue is financing. We need sponsors to accomplish this task.

Do you think Notting Hill Mas bands have a role to play in advancing Trinidad and Tobago's culture internationally?

I believe that Trinidad and Tobago mas band owners have fulfilled the role of highlighting and promoting Trinidad and Tobago's culture in London.

Nothing Hill Carnival is based on Trinidadians and Tobagonians putting costumes and floats out for the public to see because three quarters of these floats are Trinidad oriented.

I would like to see the Trinidad and Tobago Government supporting and getting involved by helping and sponsoring individuals to promote Trinidad and Tobago in the Nothing Hill Carnival because currently they are not getting any support, so most of the activities are by personal financing and some sponsors.

Challenges

Financing is a continuous issue. The UK public is unwilling to cover the cost of the floats. Without sponsorship deals the floats cannot operate. There is also limited recognition of the creative minds of the costume designers and builders.

FOCUS ON NOTTINGHILL MAS BANDS

CARL GABRIEL - INDEPENDENT DESIGNER

When did you begin creating costumes?

I began in 1994.

How did you start costume design and creation?

I always had an interest in Carnival and Carnival Arts. I am a trained engineer and photographer so I began photographing costumes and saw a need for something new on the road and thought I could offer something better.

I heard of Bailey and realised they do a different concept using wire bending and Papier-mâché and other traditional techniques.

I also prefer to hand paint my designs as this allows more intimate engagement with the design.

When I design I prefer to go into a remote area and work with the materials that are available.

I have been doing this in the UK since 1994.

Do you own your own band?

No, I am an independent designer. Mas bands contact me and I advise them of what techniques to use to complement their theme. I create mostly the kings and queens for different bands.

I work mostly with schools and youth clubs which parade on the Carnival Sunday in the Children Parade.

I do 3D workshops with the children allowing them to make and add components to their individual costumes.

This Year, 2014, I am working with the Yaa Assantewa Centre creating their Kings and Queens.

Can you share with us your creations for this year?

The band requested that their King and Queen be representative of a



deep spiritual Africa figure.

The moulds for the figures were created using the traditional wire bending art form then the technique of Papier-mâché was applied. Rope was used to create the hair and the costumes were finished off by painting them in white and gold.

Above: Mr. Carl Gabriel describes the concept behind the Yaa Assantewa Centre King costume; **At right:** Mr. Carl Gabriel demonstrates on Ms. Achi-Kemba Phillips, Tourism Attaché the ease and comfort of his creation - the Yaa Assantewa Centre Queen costume.



Anti-clockwise: (From top left) Mr. Carl Gabriel and his wife Lyn, in his workshop; the completed Yaa Assantewa Centre Queen and King costumes.

FOCUS ON NOTTINGHILL MAS BANDS

MAHOGANY MAS BAND

Band owner: Clary Salandy

When was your band established?

In 1989 my husband, Michael Ramdeen and I wanted to create our first big costumes with the theme 'Shadow over Tiananmen square'. In 1990 my husband, Michael Ramdeen, the late Bobb Joseph and I formed Mahogany with the intension to focus on making large costumes. We were Trinbagonians loving mas and wanting to do better.

What goes into creating Mahogany?

Great effort and experimentation.

We have a great team with different skills. We make every effort to make every costume special and memorable.

How do you feel about the change from traditional costumes and large costumes to bikini mas and tshirt bands?

I want Carnival to be about Mas. I am disappointed and embarrassed to see so much nakedness in Carnival and it pulls the culture and creativity of Trinidad and Tobago Carnival down. We have forgotten the reason for the season. Carnival came out of the emancipation of slavery and I believe that the way we create the mas, and how we tell the story is being lost.

What is the theme for 2014?

The theme for 2014 is 'Awake', we have an Eco theme this year.



At top: Ms. Clary Salandy speaks to Ms. Achi-Kemba Phillips, Tourism Attaché about Mahogany's themes for 2014; Above: Ms. Clary Salandy demonstrates the flying movements of Mahogany's bat creation for NHC2014

The theme represents the condition of the earth and this theme is mainly to bring awareness to the public to help preserve and conserve the earth and also to awake the eco warriors inside of us.

We are celebrating the beauty of nature while sending the message "we need to protect nature" and also awake the eco warrior inside of us, so that the future generation would have a world that is still inhabited by the beautiful creatures we see today in the natural habitat.

The first section would be highlighting the big bang

because of the theory that the world began by a big bang and also that it can be destroyed by a big bang by man.

The second section would be based on flora and fantasy, and will show where the world was created with the beautiful flowers and these flowers would be used to show how the world is losing its beauty by depicting how the colours in the flowers are moving from the middle and bleaching, fading outwards showing that it is losing its colour.

The third section would be based on life in the sky. This

commemorates and celebrates the butterflies and birds in nature and the way nature enables life to continue.

The fourth section would be based on the grass lands showing Africa and the drought in Africa and endangered animals such as gazelles which are called the guardians of the grass lands, lions which are known as the soldiers of the pride land that protects nature which symbolises strength and kingship.

The fifth section would be depicting the dead forest showing a more scary side of the Mas showing dying trees with no leaves as the background and bats.

The last section would be highlighting melting and the debate on melting and would include polar bears and other animals that could survive in these conditions.

Do you think Notting Hill Mas bands have a role to play in advancing Trinidad and Tobago's culture internationally?



Above: Ms. Clary Salandy with her partner Mr. Michael 'Speedy' Ramdeen.

We see ourselves as huge ambassadors for Trinidad and Tobago. We are doing a lot at Mahogany to teach and engage young people, our children second generation Trinbagonians to Carnival Arts and the history of Trinidad and Tobago Carnival. How to design, how to cut and how to create 3 Dimensional shapes.

We are also supporting young people in the community and those studying Carnival Arts at University level to learn and gain practical experience in creating Carnival.



At Left: Young volunteers hard at work creating the costumes for NHC2014. **Above:** Ms. Simone Ramdeen registering masqueraders for the various sections in the mas band.

FOCUS ON NOTTINGHILL MAS BANDS EUPHORIA CARNIVAL MAS BAND



Pictured: Euphoria Carnival Mas band's costumes for NHC 2014. The sections names are - (From L-R) Sol, Partyman, Party woman and Oceana. **Photos:** Kevin jospeh

When and how was the band established?

Euphoria Carnival was formed late 2011 and burst onto the streets of Notting hill in 2012

The idea for the band came out of a conversation between myself and Mateen Hepburn (Busspepper Promotions) and our vision was simple:

- Portray the very best of Trinidad & Tobago and

Caribbean culture

- Improve the level of service and quality offered to patrons at Carnival
- Move the Notting Hill Carnival model closer to that of Trinidad & Tobago

Realising very early on that in order to achieve this goal we would need a solid team we engaged Ceylan Gomez, Cory John (DJ Markee), Melysah Charles, Oliver Martin (Suits

UK) and Jean-Pierre Poteon. All of whom have brought a unique blend of experience but more important a desire to do better. We also have a wider team of committee members and key suppliers all of whose contribution has made the band the success it is now

We are a group of young professionals, bound together by our passion for quality entertainment and love for all things Caribbean. We

have backgrounds in various industries which include event management, music, business management, marketing, advertising, design, communications, IT, geophysics, project and process management. Combined we have over 20 years experience in the entertainment industry and have all been involved in Carnival band production and Caribbean based entertainment with different organisations in the Caribbean, North America and the United Kingdom.

What is this year's theme and how do the costumes portray it?

Euphoria Carnival invited all to take a journey with us for Notting Hill Carnival 2014 to Salvador da Bahia - a terra da felicidade.

We aimed to embody the essence of Bahia and celebrate their rich, diverse history, the energy and vibrancy of the people and the excitement of their Carnival. Our theme this year was Bahia. With

CULTURE & TOURISM

2014 being the world cup and with the Eyes of the world being focussed on Brazil we thought this was a great fit, adding to that Bahia's Carnival shares many similarities with Carnival in Trinidad

What goes into creating the costumes?

Costume creating starts with the generation of a theme. This is a lengthy process and usually involves several meetings with the full team. After theme generation we engage our design team and start with the creation of a prototype, this gives us a better idea of what the costumes will look like and the cost of producing each unit. Once agreed we fine tune and the production begins.

What influences your design aesthetic?

Comfort, beauty and impact. The band must have impact on the road and needs a high volume of complimenting colours to achieve this.

What sets your band apart from the others?

Quality, Customer Focus – Ghandi says it best “A customer is the most important visitor on our premises. He is not dependent on us. We are dependent on him. He is not an interruption in our work. He is the purpose of it. He is



Pictured: The Euphoria Team at work sorting costumes for distribution.
Photo: Euphoria Carnival Mas Band



Pictured (from top): Euphoria Team Photo after their Bahia costume's photoshoot; Euphoria Mas Band on the Road shoots confetti in the air whilst passing judging point. **Photo:** Kevin Joseph

not an outsider in our business. He is part of it. We are not doing him a favour by serving him. He is doing us a favour by giving us an opportunity to do so.”... “I am, you are, we are Euphoria!!!

How does Notting Hill Carnival compare to Carnival in Trinidad and Tobago?

Difficult to compare the two big difference is that in the UK Carnival is more a spectator event while in Trinidad its part of our culture and there is a better understanding behind what Carnival means (beyond a party).

That said many seasoned masqueraders have said that after Trinidad, Notting hill is the best Carnival in the world. They say there is more freedom

of expression and more of a vibe here than, North American and European Carnivals.

What do you think of the progression of Notting Hill Carnival in London since your band's inception? (community acceptance/restrictions/ stigma)

Notting hill is moving in the right direction in many ways and is now becoming more than just a West Indian celebration. This increased acceptance has resulted in greater participation from people of many nationalities.

Medium to large sized bands have come from a majority T-shirt culture back to proper costumes where designers are afforded the opportunity to express their creativity in many ways.

What do you think of the evolution of Carnival from traditional character representation to bikini and beads mas?

My views are as follows

- The evolution as you put it is very much linked to the pace of the music, tastes, styles and fashion.
- Traditional mas isn't dead, there is a market and Euphoria would love to modernise and bring it back. The key is in the execution, watch this space.

What are your future plans for the band?

We plan to cap our current band numbers at 700 in 2014 and will focus on improving the level of service we offer to patrons in terms of services all round, from online purchasing, costume distribution, food and drink distribution. There are a few others but those will be pleasant surprises next year!

The various European Carnivals are of interest and we will pursue them in years to come.

For 2015 expect a few more standalone events from Euphoria as we seek to drive the brand message further.

Do Notting Hill mas bands have a role in advancing Trinidad and Tobago's culture internationally, and if so, how can this be furthered?

1000% yes! Not only do we and other bands have a role in advancing Carnival internationally, it is our duty!

More Financial support. Carnival is an expensive business and given that the market is still developing, bands need help to source materials, subsidise costs and provide entertainment.

LEEDS CARNIVAL KING & QUEEN SHOW TRIUMPHS AT NEW VENUE



At Left: Newly crowned Leeds Carnival King & Queen Lindo Mkomo as *Sea Dragon* by Sheila Howarth, Raymond Wilkes and The Geraldine Connor Foundation alongside Davinia Harmer in the Colin Spalding and Stephen Hoyte Rampage Mas design *She is Africa – Mother of Abundance*. **Photo: Guy Farrar.**

At Right: Leeds Carnival King 2014 Runner Up Seph Condor in his self designed *Dragon Mash Up*. **Photo: Keith Pattison**

Organisers of Leeds West Indian Carnival have marked their 47th anniversary with a new venue for the spectacular annual Carnival King & Queen Show. The sell out show debuted at the West Yorkshire Playhouse on Friday 22nd August and signals a new artistic partnership with the nationally renowned theatre.

In a showcase of Caribbean Carnival arts the evening featured costume designs from across the UK vying for the titles of Carnival King & Queen 2014 and the honour of leading the August Bank Holiday Monday Carnival parade attended by thousands.

Rampage Mas design duo Colin Spalding and Stephen Hoyte's *She is Africa - Mother of Abundance* displayed by Davinia Harmer took the Carnival Queen title whilst veteran Leeds designer Sheila Howarth and her brother Raymond Wilkes partnered



Pictured: Young designer Pareesha Pyke-Webster in her self-designed *Peacock Goddess*. **Photo: Keith Pattison**

with the Geraldine Connor Foundation to produce the winning King design *Sea Dragon*, energetically displayed by Lindo Mkomo.

The 750 plus strong capacity audience were also treated to performances from Leeds Pop Up Carnival hot on the heels of their appearance for over 200,000 visitors at the Grand Depart of the Tour de France as well as a well received set by twin singers Tila & Tavelah of

BBC's *The Voice UK*. Crowd pleasers of the night were top UK comedy duo Eddie Nestor & Robbie Gee whilst International Groovy Soca Monarch 2014 Kerwin Du Bois had the audience on their feet, singing along to his hits.

Chairman and Founder of Leeds Carnival Arthur France MBE said;

"The show could not have gone better! The space at

the theatre is a costume designer's dream and a great platform for carnival related performances. Working with West Yorkshire Playhouse will open up Carnival Arts to wider audiences so that we can share the culture, creativity and the passion that inspire us."

Winning designer Colin Spalding, Rampage Mas CIC Artistic Director added;

"Leeds West Indian Carnival is a regular and much loved fixture on the Rampage Mas CIC touring schedule. We're especially delighted to have won the Carnival Queen title at the show's debut at the fantastic West Yorkshire Playhouse. It was an amazing Carnival Arts extravaganza and we are looking forward to returning to next year's event."

More information on Leeds West Indian Carnival is available online at www.leedscarnival.co.uk or on Twitter @CarnivalLeeds



NOTTING HILL CARNIVAL – THE UNTOLD STORY

On Thursday 7th August, 2014, London's Evening Standard Newspaper published an intriguing feature on the genesis of Notting Hill Carnival.

The invaluable contribution of Trinbagonian nationals to the formation of the United Kingdom's biggest and most spectacular street festival is undeniable, from activist Claudia Jones' Caribbean Carnival, to the steel pan bands which cemented Notting Hill Carnival's West Indian theme. Below is an excerpt which illustrates how this Trinidad-inspired festival came into being,

The story of the Notting Hill Carnival begins on the post-war backstreets of North Kensington in a community scarred by poverty, social neglect, slum landlords and racial tension. The area was one cursed with acute overcrowding and dilapidated accommodation with no bathrooms, no hot water and, as late as the early 1960s, no electricity.

The desperate labour shortage at the end of the Second World War invited mass immigration to the UK. West Indians arrived in droves, joining the ranks of working-class Britons, Jews, Irish, Greeks and Spaniards in the cramped tenements of Notting Hill. By the late 1950s, Notting Hill and Brixton had the most concentrated population of West Indians in the country.

Militant factions of working-class whites were easily drawn to the bandwagon of the fascist Oswald Mosley, whose "Keep Britain White" slogan exploited their fears and the anti-immigration tendencies of the time, accusing West Indians of taking their jobs, their homes, their women, and of playing loud music until the early hours. The newly arrived migrants encountered colour bars in employment and housing and were inevitably set on a collision course with certain factions of working-class whites.

The Notting Hill Race Riots of 1958, and the racist murder of Antiguan carpenter Kelso Cochrane the following year, marked a climax in racial tension. These events became the catalyst through which activists mobilised in an effort to bridge cultural gaps and ease these tensions. The British Communist Party led protest marches throughout

the area, graffiti denouncing racism began to appear on walls, notable public figures such as the chief minister of Jamaica, Norman Manley, visited the area, while others organised public meetings and campaigns. Meanwhile, Claudia Jones, a Brixton-based Trinidadian political activist and editor of the first black weekly newspaper in Britain, the *West Indian Gazette*, presented the idea of holding a Caribbean carnival to build unity among people by showcasing Caribbean arts and culture.

Jones was a talented and determined woman who fought tirelessly for the human rights of oppressed peoples around the world. A resident in the US since emigrating with her parents from Trinidad, aged nine, she was jailed four times for her activism and membership of the Communist Party, and eventually expelled from America in 1955. The British colonial governor to Trinidad refused her re-entry to the country of her birth, fearing that her presence on the island "may prove troublesome", so she was deported to Britain, where she wasted no time in immersing herself in the politics of the day and helping to mobilise black political action and resistance to racism.

Jones's Caribbean Carnival took place on January 30, 1959, at St Pancras Town Hall and was televised by the BBC. It was held indoors because it had been planned to coincide with the Trinidadian celebration that is traditionally held between January and March (in the week before Lent), but the English weather was too cold at that time of year for the event to be hosted outdoors.



Above: Doctor Rat was a former leader of the Renegades in Trinidad and Tobago. He migrated to England and helped established a chapter of the band alongside his long-time associate Darcus Howe. 1977. **Photo courtesy of Norman Reid/David Hoffman Photo Library**

Carnival in Trinidad is traditionally a “jump-up” — a shape-shifting, carefree, open-air bacchanal. Jones’s London version, however, by nature of its surroundings and presentation, was a sanitised and somewhat contrived affair.

As the editor of the *West Indian Gazette*, Jones is often credited with having brought the celebration of Caribbean carnival culture to Britain. However credit is also due to many others, among them the Trinidadian husband-and-wife team of Pearl and Edric Connor, who were the booking agents for the artists and organised many of the events. The *West Indian Gazette* organised other indoor Caribbean Carnival cabarets that were performed at various London venues, including Seymour Hall, Porchester Hall and the Lyceum Ballroom, and continued until 1964, when Jones died prematurely from heart disease at the age of 49.

A footnote on the front cover of the original 1959 souvenir brochure references a connection between that carnival celebration and the Notting Hill riots of the previous year, revealing much about Jones’s character

and her tenacious pursuit of social equality: “A part of the proceeds [from the sale] of this brochure are to assist the payments of fines of coloured and white youths involved in the Notting Hill events.”

The Notting Hill Festival of 1966, out of which the Notting Hill Carnival eventually grew, was the brainchild of social worker Rhaune Laslett, in collaboration with the London Free School, a community action adult education project co-founded by Laslett with photographer and political activist John “Hoppy” Hopkins and an amorphous group of contributors from the local community.

Laslett, born in the East End to a Native American mother and Russian father, was a notable figure in the community of Notting Hill who had adopted a proactive role in healing the racial tensions in the area in the late Fifties.

Laslett consulted her trusted neighbour and respected figure in the community, Guyanese activist Andre Shervington, about how to get the West Indian community to participate in the festival. She also consulted others and was advised to invite a well-known

Trinidadian musician named Russell Henderson whose Sunday afternoon jazz gig at the Coleherne pub in Old Brompton Road was popular among West Indians.

Henderson’s group consisted of Sterling Betancourt, Vernon “Fellows” Williams, Fitzroy Coleman and Ralph Cherry. There were not many steel-pan players in the country at the time. Henderson, who had also played for Claudia Jones at St Pancras Town Hall in 1959, readily accepted Laslett’s invitation to perform at the first Notting Hill street festival. It was the attendance of his band that changed the course of what might otherwise have become a traditional English pageant, albeit with a multicultural theme.

When Henderson’s group arrived and began playing “pan”, West Indians — hearing the familiar sounds from home — flooded the streets. In line with the Trinidad carnival tradition of “making a rounds” (where steel-pan players march in the streets), the group led a procession that wove up Portobello Road towards Notting Hill Gate and back again, gathering new revellers along the way. Henderson had inadvertently put a Caribbean hallmark

on the festival and word quickly spread to the other West Indian communities in England about what had taken place.

In successive years, although the carnival was still diverse and eclectic and ran as a week-long Notting Hill Festival, it became progressively more West Indian, and specifically Trinidadian, in flavour. Steel bands such as the Blue Notes led by Pedro Burgess, Les Flambeaux, Bay 57 and Melody Makers came out on the road. Trinidadian costume-maker Ashton Charles began creating traditional “fancy sailor” costumes for children. More and more steel-pan players, performers and West Indians joined in, and the street celebration came to eclipse the spread of events and activities happening at a variety of indoor venues.

The piece was an excerpt of Carnival — A Photographic and Testimonial History of the Notting Hill Carnival, by Ishmahil Blagrove Jr, published on Saturday 9th August, 2014, by Rice n Peas Publishing, £25 (020 7243 9191, [ricenpeas.com](http://www.ricenpeas.com)).



<http://www.standard.co.uk/goingout/attractions/notting-hill-carnivalthe-untold-story-9653208.html?origin=internalSearch>



Above: Muhammad Ali visits the home of one of the carnival founders Rhaune Laslett in 1966. **Photo: Getty Images**

NOTTING HILL CARNIVAL COMPETITION RESULTS

2014 LONDON CALYPSO TENT - CALYPSO MONARCH COMPETITION RESULTS

The finals of the 2014 London Calypso Tent - Calypso Monarch Competition took place on Thursday 21st August, in front of a packed audience at the Tabernacle, Powis Square. The event which is hosted by the Association of British Calypsonians saw reigning monarch Sheldon Skeete successfully defended his Calypso Monarch title for the third time.

The results as follows:

1. Sheldon Skeete - 'Voices'
2. Nikisha - 'Life is Worth More than Money'
3. Alexander D Great - 'What Is Black Music'

People's Choice' King and Queen of the Tent were James Santiago with "Oyster Card" and Brown Sugar singing "Feeling It".



Pictured: Tourism Attaché, Ms. Achi-Kemba Phillips with Sheldon Skeete

MAS ON THE ROAD RESULTS

CATEGORY - CHILDREN'S CARNIVAL *

MEDIUM	SMALL
1. Mahogany Carnival Club	1. St Clements & St James
2. Heritage Arts & Dance Group	Carnival Band
3. Barbados Carnival Committee	2. Beeraahar Sweet Combination
	3. Vybz Mas UK

*There were no **Large Bands** (mas bands with 150 or more people in costume competing in Nottinghill's Children's Carnival on Sunday 24th August 2014).

CATEGORY - ADULTS' CARNIVAL

LARGE	MEDIUM
1. Paraiso School of Samba	1. Mahogany Carnival Club
2. London School of Samba	2. Masquerade 2000/ M2K
3. Chocolate Nation	3. Flagz Mas Band

2014 NOTTING HILL CARNIVAL STEELBAND COMPETITIONS RESULTS

UK NATIONAL PANORAMA

1. Real Steel: "Pan in the Atmosphere", arranged by Leroy Clarke
2. Metronomes Steel Orchestra: "Carnival Tabanca", arranged by Annise 'Halfers' Hadeed
3. Ebony Steelband Trust: "Big People Party" arranged by Samuel DuBois

BEST CONVENTIONAL STEELBAND ON THE ROAD (NOTTING HILL CARNIVAL)

1. Real Steel: "Spankin'", arranged by Leroy Clarke
2. UFO of Steel: "Unknown", arranged by Annise 'Halfers' Hadeed
3. Ebony Steelband Trust: "Happiest Man Alive" arranged by Samuel DuBois



Pictured: Real Steel performing at 2014 UK National Panorama competition

Photo - www.facebook.com/realsteelband



UK GROOVY SOCA MONARCH 2014

On Friday, 15th August, the The London Calypso Tent Groovy Soca competition took place at the Carnival Village, Powis Square, London. The Competition featured special guest performances by four times crowned National Women's Action Committee (NWAC) National Calypso Queen of Trinidad and Tobago winner Shirlane Hendrickson and Sixth time Canada Calypso Monarch Macomere Fifi.

Here are the results as follows:

1. Nikisha - 'The Power is Yours'
1. Sheldon Skeete - 'Send them Afghanistan'
3. Cleopatra - Message to Miss Carnival
4. James Santiago Oyster Card

The High Commission for the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago in London congratulates all participants on their outstanding performances and unique contributions to the success of the Notting Hill Carnival and its associated events.



Pictured: 1) Masqueraders from Mohogany Mas Band; 2) Mohogany Mas Band's King; 3) St Clement and St James Carnival Band; 4) Abir - Colours of Life revellers signaling they're ready for the road; 5) Abir - Colours of Life revellers dosing each other with paint and powder; 6) A happy United Colours of Mas (UCOM) masquerader enjoying; 7) Bacchanalia male masqueraders; 8) Bacchanalia female masquerader dancing; 9) Queen costume. **Photos courtesy** Bacchanalia Mas Band/Raid Photography, ABIR/Frederique Rapier, Iowa City Carnaval, The London Notting Hill Carnival, UCOM



CAPTAIN ARTHUR A. CIPRIANI, TRINIDADIAN HERO OF WORLD WAR I

August 4th, 2014, marked the 100 year anniversary of the day the United Kingdom of Great Britain entered the fray of one of the world's costliest conflicts, the First World War. As leaders all over the world paused to mark the occasion, it was evident that the contribution of the soldiers of the Commonwealth was not forgotten.

More than a million people from across the Commonwealth lost their lives during World War One. To mark their loss, high level representatives of Commonwealth member countries gathered in Glasgow on August 4th - following the close of the Commonwealth Games - to attend a special commemoration.

Commonwealth Secretary-General Kamalesh Sharma was among dignitaries from all regions of the Commonwealth who took part in the event, as well as British Prime Minister David Cameron. The following day, 1.1 million poppies were blown into the air in Dorset, United Kingdom, to mark every Commonwealth death during World War One.

In Trinidad and Tobago, it is a point of pride that many of our own made significant contributions to the War effort of the then-colonial mother country. One man in particular is remembered with special reverence, his legacy enduring as a leader who imbibed a fiery spirit of tenacity in an amalgamation of fighters both on the battlefields of war abroad, as well as the labourers' domains at home.

Captain Arthur Andrew Cipriani was one of the 397 officers and 15,204 men, representing all Caribbean colonies, who served in the British West Indies Regiment. Born in 1875, he was involved with recruiting soldiers at the outbreak of World War I and was subsequently made a captain

in the British West India Regiment, leaving for the front in 1917.

While Captain Cipriani is widely lauded as a protagonist in the development of industrial action in Trinidad and Tobago, his exploits on the battlefield are not as well known. In his book *Victory at Damieh*, author Arthur L. McShine explores Cipriani's service in Palestine under General Allenby, where he helped lead the West Indian soldiers to victory against the Ottoman Turks at Damieh in 1918.

The abridged excerpt below sheds insight into the remarkable events on the field of war:

Captain Cipriani writes of the Battle of Damieh in justifiably heroic words: "Here it was that we put paid to the Turks and gave the lie to our detractors who said that our men would not stand up under fire. The Battalion, supported by the Auckland Rifles, went into action in artillery formation with the same calm as if they had been on ordinary parade, and in spite of being subjected to heavy fire our troops never failed for a single moment seemingly heedless of the enemy's fire."

This was a small but important moment in the Sinai and Palestine campaign, a part of the Battle of Nablus which occurred between 19 and 25th September 1918.

Consider the scene at Damieh one month and five days before the unconditional surrender that brought an end to the war in the Middle East. The Turks, attempting to retreat and cross the Jordan River at the Damieh bridgehead "came foul of the (BWI Regiment) First Battalion Lewis-gunners who opened such a terrific fire that not a single Turk succeeded in crossing." Failing in this, they made their last turn for the Es Salt Hills, the battle resolving itself into a chase.

"The Turkish army was now in full flight, making their way home up the Es Salt Hills



Above: Captain Arthur Andrew Cipriani.

At Right: Three British West India Regiment (BWIR) soliders cleaning their rifles at the Battle of the Somme, September 1916.

In background: The BWIR at work.

Photos: Caribbean History Archives, The Imperial War Museum, London

3,000 feet up and over goat tracks. Our men, flushed with victory, followed without any rest, with little food and water, in the hope of coming up with them again at Amman, where the Divisional Commander had promised them another scrap. After a few hours' rest a forced march through the night brought them to Amman just too late, as our friends the Anzacs had already captured the village" [A.A. Cipriani]

As Captain Cipriani reports, the First Battalion captured 200 prisoners and seven machine-guns, losing one killed and six wounded. The Second Battalion lost six killed and 40 wounded.

"The work of the BWI Regiment was a revelation to GHQ who were not slow to

mark their appreciation. On the day following the battle, General Allenby called in person on our wounded in the hospital at Jerusalem and thanked them for their good work." [A.A. Cipriani]

A century after the War began, Captain Cipriani's writings are a poignant testament to the courageous sacrifice of the soldiers of the British West Indies Regiment, and to the steely mettle which propelled Captain Cipriani to become one of Trinidad and Tobago's most significant proponents for equality and justice.

At right: The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge view the Tower of London's 'Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red' poppy installation, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of WWI, in London, Tuesday 5th August, 2014.
Photo: AP Photo/Matt Dunham



SPOTLIGHT ON ... UP AND COMING ATHLETE, OMARI STAFFORD-DAVIES

As nationals in Britain watched their favourite Trinidad and Tobago athletes in action at this year's Commonwealth Games, there has been an inevitable spark of interest in the rising new crop of sportsmen who may one day compete on the world stage and fly the red, white and black flag high.

One such promising young athlete is Omari Stafford-Davies. At sixteen years old, Trinidad-born Stafford-Davies has captured the attention of several rugby scouts and has been offered scholarships from internationally prestigious schools that not only recognise excellent sporting ability, but also admirable academic achievements.

Born at the Mount Hope Maternity Hospital on October 29, 1997 to parents Gillian Davies and Hayden Brathwaite, Stafford-Davies lived in Kelly Village, Caroni. Stafford-Davies is now making a name for himself in London for his try scoring capability, and is described as fast, dynamic and a threat with the ball in hand. Having represented London Wasps Academy on numerous occasions, Stafford-Davies has played against superior teams such as Northampton Saints and Leicester Tigers.

Stafford-Davies has already received offers from many schools, including Cranleigh

School (both in the United Kingdom and Abu Dhabi) and St Georges in Vancouver, Canada. Significantly, Stafford-Davies has been selected to attend the first-rate Sharks Academy Training Camp in Kwa-Zulu, Durban, South Africa.

Read on to get acquainted with this talented young man.

How old were you when you left Trinidad and Tobago, and how do you keep that connection alive?

I left Trinidad, my paradise, at the age of three. The connection at home is kept alive through my mum via communication with relatives back home, keeping up to date with current affairs via the T&T Guardian online and also when my nanny



Christian and aunties (auntie Lima and Kimberly) bring my long lost love Kiss Cake, roti, tamarind balls, and khurma.

FEATURE

My Great MumMum (Enaid) sends me jalebi, coo coo, fish and the list goes on! My mum is a wiz in the kitchen when she whips up macaroni pie with stewed chicken, dumpling and saltfish and some lip licking beef pelau. The next time I go home I want some doubles, pholourie, bake and shark, souse and a red Solo.

When and how did you first become interested in playing rugby?

I came across rugby whilst attending St James' Independent School for Senior Boys. Rugby was and still is the dominant sport in the school and coming from



a predominantly football oriented background; I was put in a particularly difficult situation. Cross Country or Rugby? Long distance was not my cup of tea, so I chose the latter. When I first started I remember my PE teacher Mr Wassell saying "catch the ball and run" so that's exactly what I did! I ended that year rapping up 52 try's (15's and 7's) a record that still stands today. Having received positive feedback from parents, coaches and team mates my mum decided to sign me up to my local club, Wasps Amateurs, where my coach Anthony Bull really helped with my early development of the sport.

What has been the most challenging aspect of the sport for you?

It was the basic handling skills, learning to pass off both hands over various distances was difficult for me. The objective of

football is to score goals by kicking the ball into the opposing teams net, whereas scoring points in rugby entails touching the ball down on the opponent's try line or kicking the ball through these mountainous goal posts. I had to get my mind around it all, but soon after it came easy.

What was your proudest moment as a rugby player?

That's an easy one. It has to be when I played for the Wasp Academy at Twickenham Stadium - the home of English Rugby. Getting the opportunity to play there really opened my eyes to the more long-term prospects rugby presented to me and helped me to realise that this great sport was what I wanted to be doing for the rest of my professional life.

Were you keeping up with Trinidad and Tobago's rugby team at the Commonwealth Games? What did you think of the players' performance?

Yes I was keeping up to date and informed with the national team's performance during the Commonwealth Games through social media. Unfortunately I was unable to view any live games due to my extremely tight pre-season schedule that meant I was always training. Having said that, I did see a clip of Trinidad and Tobago play 7's against Barbados prior to the Games. From what I saw, we have the potential to be the dominant island in the sport, it's still relatively new to the people and success doesn't happen overnight. We have the athletes and we have the spirit, what we're missing is the key skill set and fitness, but I was proud of the guys' performance and next Commonwealth Games they should aim to get on the podium.

What are the benefits of involvement in sports for young people?

Playing sport has countless benefits for people my age and younger. Through initially getting into football and progressing to rugby has undoubtedly improved my cardiovascular fitness and endurance, in addition to my upper and lower body strength. My position, wing, outside centre or fullback, requires me to focus on speed and agility, but I wouldn't say the benefits are only physical. My

involvement in sport has helped to develop key skills required for team work, in any setting. Sporting activities have allowed me to work well within a group setting in order to achieve mutual benefits for all involved. My communication skills have greatly improved and I am able to begin and maintain a conversation with others without difficulty. My participation in sport has encouraged and nurtured a high level of self-discipline and a healthy streak of competitiveness. Sports has generally contributed to my positive outlook on and off the pitch.

How do you balance your obligations as an athlete with your academics?

"Omari get in your book!" that's really all I hear. My mother holds the balance between my academics and sports, I definitely can't take the credit for that! With the pressures of school and performing on the pitch, you need someone who is organised and able to put things into perspective. Growing up I was always told that knowledge is power and that it can be extremely liberating. My mother has instilled that my education always comes first, so that's a saying I live by.

What are your plans for the future?

Minister of Defence, Minister of Sport, Prime Minister maybe?! The possibilities are endless, I'm still young so anything can happen but as of now all I want is to achieve highly both on and off the field, that's the plan.

What advice would you give young athletes in Trinidad and Tobago?

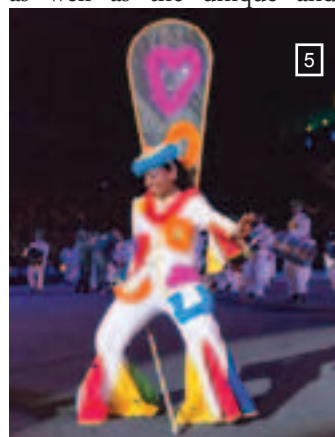
Four things, firstly that success is not without failure, you have to first experience a low before you can truly appreciate success. Learning from those failures makes success taste sweeter. Secondly, surround yourself with a positive group of people. Like minded individuals that want to see you grow and improve, with the help and support of friends and family, make your goals more achievable. Thirdly, you are only as good as your last performance, so take every practice and game as if it were your last and most importantly, enjoy it! Lastly just be grateful, thank God for what and who you've been blessed with.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO WOWS AT ROYAL EDINBURGH MILITARY TATTOO 2014

On a balmy night in Edinburgh, over 8,000 people converged on the esplanade of Edinburgh Castle to witness one of Europe's most spectacular annual affairs, the premiere of the 65th Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. Performers representing countries within the Commonwealth put on grand displays of their culture, and one of the highlights of the evening was the presentation by the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force Steel Orchestra (TTDFSO).

Representing the entire Caribbean, the 47-member Trinidad and Tobago contingent evoked loud cheers and an infectious energy from the crowd with its rousing steel pan performance of tunes such as "Jamaican Farewell," "Brown Girl in the Ring" and "Mathilda". The audience, which consisted of visitors from around the world, were delighted with the display which featured Carnival costumes and a Moko Jumbie portraying Trinidad and Tobago's national bird, the Scarlet Ibis.

The TTDFSO presentation was an excellent illustration of the warmth of the Caribbean as well as the unique and



rich culture of Trinidad and Tobago, and injected a palpable vibrancy into the atmosphere.

This was the TTDFSO's fifth appearance at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, which is seen by over 200,000 visitors every year. The theme of this year's event was "Our Home, Friends and Family", to reflect the Year of

Homecoming 2014, and ran from August 1st to August 23rd. The globally lauded Tattoo featured over 1150 cast members from Scotland, Malta, South Africa, India, New Zealand and other Commonwealth countries.

Tattoo chief executive and producer Brigadier David Allfrey said: "I am fortunate to

have the opportunity to travel to the ends of our inhabited earth to meet our friends and allies and am always struck by the impact that Scotland has made and the warmth with which visitors are greeted. Nowhere is this more evident than across the countries of the Commonwealth."

Pictured: 1) The TTDF Steel Orchestra with moko jumbie depicting the Scarlet Ibis. 2) TTDF Steel Orchestra entering the Esplanade of Edinburgh Castle, the 2014 Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, 3) Limbo dancers, 4) TTDF Steel Orchestra members using dance in the performance, 5) Traditional Sailor Mas carnival costume. **Photos:** www.edintattoo.co.uk

FEATURE

CHILDREN IN CENTRAL SCOTLAND GET A TASTE OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO



by DR. LINDY-ANN BLAIZE ALFRED

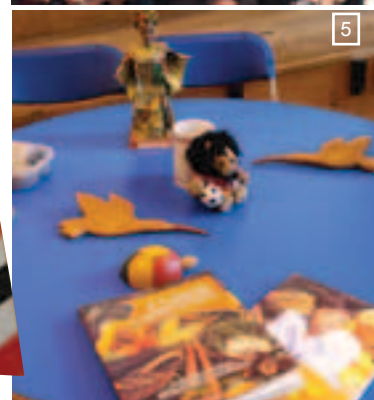
To the sounds of Bunji Garlin's 'Differentology', the Trinidad and Tobago Commonwealth Road show we were ready for the roads of Central Scotland. In the true spirit of 'La Trinite' – sisters Charmaine, Celeste and Lindy-Ann Blaize developed and presented with help from the Trinidad and Tobago High Commission, a 45 minute taste of Trinidad and Tobago, one of the countries participating in the Commonwealth games.

As well-known members of the Trinidad diaspora living in the community, the sisters were invited by the schools to give the children a taste of Trinidad & Tobago, the "true Caribbean".

The children which numbered one hundred and fifty children from two stirring schools were treated to a range of experiences about Trinidad and Tobago – starting with a presentation about the richness and diversity of our natural and human resources and the significance of our colours and symbols. Students also had the opportunity to sweep with a cocoyea broom, mix it up with a swizzle stick, pocket some Trini money and beat some drums while performing a karaoke to Bunji's Differentology – which sounds great even with a Scottish accent!

"We must show more love, for the things we own, for their future is our concern" indeed these words of Tambu were fulfilled as we made our way out of the schools, secure in the knowledge that the children's experience had paved a way for a new understanding and appreciation of their commonwealth brothers – and hopefully a greater chance of a united and mutually respectful future. This was in fact the overriding sentiment shared by the students in the 56 thank you letters that were sent.

Pictured: 1) Group photo of Stenhousemuir Primary school. 2&3) Classrooms decorated with informative T&T posters and promotional materials, 4) Ms. Charmaine Blaize, Mrs. Celeste Blaize-Gibson and Ms. Lindy-Ann Blaize, 5) T&T souveigners, figurines, toys and cook books on display. 6) Ladeside Primary School watches the T&T promotional DVD. **Photos:** Celeste Blaize-Gibson



SCHOOL CHILDREN'S THANK YOU LETTERS

I loved learning, about the carnival, about the people, the music, the rainforest, the steel drum...It has really persuade me to go there

I really like your song that you played because it made me feel alive

Now, I want to go to Trinidad and Tobago

Trinidad and Tobago is my best country of the Commonwealth!!!



NATIONALS BENEFIT FROM GHRS SEMINAR ON ENHANCING TRINIDAD & TOBAGO'S PUBLIC SECTOR

Nationals gathered at the High Commission on Friday 29th August to participate in a special seminar held by the Government Human Resources Services Company Limited (GHRS) of Trinidad and Tobago. Mrs. Michelle Mulcare was the feature speaker, and she delivered a highly informative presentation on the services provided by GHRS, as well as the ways in which members of the Diaspora could give back to their homeland.

As Mrs. Mulcare explained, GHRS aims to enhance the human resource capacity of Trinidad and Tobago's public service, offering recruitment and selection services, assessment and development, training design and delivery, and customised human resource solutions. With a database of over 48,000 jobseekers and employers, a primary objective of GHRS is to stem the 'brain drain' and thus enhance Trinidad and Tobago's society and economy at large.

Touching on an important issue for those gathered at the meeting, Mrs. Mulcare encouraged the nationals



present to consider returning to Trinidad and Tobago to share their knowledge and expertise. She advised on the various routes of assistance available to returning nationals, via the Ministry of National Security for work permits for foreign partners, and the Trinidad and Tobago Mortgage Finance Company as well as the Ministry of Housing, Land and Marine Affairs for guidance on securing accommodation. Nationals were informed of the availability of flexible contract work, and assured that despite their age, they could still make a contribution via coaching and mentoring younger workers.

Mrs. Mulcare struck a chord with the attendees as she shared her personal story of returning home to Trinidad after having spent several years abroad and building a successful career and family life. "I always really wanted to go home and give back to Trinidad and Tobago, it was my dream," she stated. "I determinedly pursued jobs online and via GHRS until I secured this job I have today. My advice to you is if you have a dream – do it, give back

to your home. Do not make anything, even age, a barrier".

Above: Mrs. Michelle Mulcare taking question on the services provided by GHRS

Below: A cross section of the nationals at the meeting

Bottom Left: Mrs. Reshma Bissoon-Deokie, Acting High Commissioner and Ms. Achi-Kemba Phillips, Tourism Attaché with Mrs. Mulcare

Photos: Beverley Awonaya



16 Mulchan Seuchan Road, Chaguanas, 501316
Trinidad & Tobago, WI

Tel: +1 868 672-GHRS (4477) | Fax: +1 868 672-9405
www.ghrs.gov.tt

ON BEING A REPUBLIC IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO



The Red House is the seat of Parliament in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

Trinidad and Tobago became a Republic on August 1st, 1976. The event is celebrated as a public holiday on September 24th because this is the date when the first Parliament met under the new Republican Constitution. The date was removed from the official calendar of holidays from 1999 to 2001 to make way for the Spiritual Baptist (Shouter) Liberation Day which is celebrated on March 30th. The Republic Day holiday was reinstated in 2002.

When Trinidad and Tobago achieved independence on August 31st, 1962, the monarchy continued, in that, Her Majesty the Queen remained the Queen of Trinidad and Tobago and all citizens continued to owe allegiance to Her. After many years of being a monarchy, it was decided that Trinidad and Tobago should no longer be required to owe allegiance to the Queen and should therefore become a Republic having a Head of State in its own right,

Trinidad and Tobago became a Republic on August 1st, 1976. The event was celebrated as a public holiday on September 24th because this is the date when the first Parliament met under the new Republican Constitution.

To bring about such a meaningful and independent status, the conversion of the former Constitution from its character as an Order in Council of the Queen into that of an indigenous instrument of government fashioned by citizens of Trinidad and Tobago, was effected by the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

enacting the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago Act, 1976.

The Constitution provides for a President who, in the exercise of his functions under the Constitution or any other law, acts in accordance with the advice of the Cabinet or a minister acting under the general authority of the Cabinet where provision is made by the constitution.

The Constitution also provides for the Prime Minister to keep the President fully informed concerning the general conduct of the government of Trinidad and Tobago and to furnish him

with such information as he may request on any matter relating to the government of Trinidad and Tobago.

A principal feature of the Constitution is the inclusion of a comprehensive set of fundamental human rights and freedoms whereby all citizens of Trinidad and Tobago and minorities are provided with effective safeguards against arbitrary government and acts of the executive or other bodies or authorities which may be inconsistent with the concept of the Rule of Law.

These fundamental human rights and freedoms have been entrenched in the Constitution and any alteration of any of them can only be effected by the consent of effective majorities of both houses of Parliament.

In general, the Constitution of Trinidad and Tobago creates, fosters and encourages a truly democratic representative government and more particularly the following factors:



- Its recognition and acceptance of fundamental human rights and freedoms to be enjoyed by all regardless of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, wealth, education, status or birth; and the incorporation of adequate machinery for the protection and enforcement of all rights and freedoms;
 - The inclusion of adequate checks and balances in the Legislative, Executive and Judicial arms of Government;
 - The existence of an enlightened and independent Judiciary charged and vested with the ultimate determination as to whether the law, or executive or administrative acts infringe the enshrined rights and freedoms of the individual;
 - Its provision for representative government deriving its power and authority from the people, which power and authority are exercised through representatives freely chosen and responsible to them;
 - Its acceptance of free periodic elections based on universal adult suffrage held by secret ballot under conditions where the right to vote is exercised without hindrance or pressure; and
 - Its encouragement and built-in machinery for the creation and maintenance of an efficient, honest and impartial civil service.
- The various Service Commissions created under the Constitution are intended to ensure that appointments, conditions of service, termination and retirement from the Public Service are based on uniform principles of impartiality and probity. The creation of an Integrity Commission is designed to maintain a high standard of morality in public affairs. Free and fair elections, including the delineation of constituencies, are for much the same reason the responsibility of the Elections and Boundaries Commission.
- Above all, the Constitution firmly establishes a Cabinet system of Government under which Ministers are responsible to the legislature and, through it, to the country. General Elections are held at least every five years to give the people the opportunity of selecting a government. There exists a non-political Public Service, the members of which are expected to observe a high degree of neutrality in politics and loyalty to the government of the day. The same is expected of members of the armed forces and of the police.
- Under its Republican Constitution, Trinidad and Tobago has a form of government that is truly based upon the principles as well as the practice of Parliamentary Democracy and the Rule of Law. The Republic of Trinidad and Tobago is governed by a bicameral Parliament.
- Source: The Ministry of Public Administration and Information*

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

28th - Nationals Meeting
TBA - Divali Celebrations
23rd - Divali - TTHC Closed

NOVEMBER

8th - Commonwealth Fair
26th - Nationals Meeting

Events will be added and updated to the High Commission's website: www.tthighcommission.co.uk

Make sure to register as a national either by email or in the High Commission to keep abreast of our exciting events!

SEND MONEY TO TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

FROM
£2.90*



WIN A TRIP TO THE
CARIBBEAN**



TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

Send money to the Caribbean and get a chance to win a trip back home to greet your family in person.

WESTERN UNION WU

moving money for better

* Western Union also makes money from currency exchange.
New fees begin 20th February 2014. £2.90 transfer fee is for sending up to £100 with our Next Day service. Funds may be delayed or services unavailable based on certain transaction conditions, including amount sent, destination country, currency availability, regulatory issues, identification requirements, Agent location hours, differences in time zones, or selection of delayed options. Additional Restrictions may apply. See Send form for details. Authorised by the Central Bank of Ireland and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority for the conduct of payment services business in the UK.
** Promotion period is valid only for transactions sent until 1st November 2014 at retail locations to the Caribbean only. See at agent location for promotional terms and conditions.



Publication of the High Commission
for the Republic of
Trinidad and Tobago, London

42 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8NT

Telephone: 020 7245 9351

Fax: 020 7823 1065

Website: www.tthighcommission.co.uk